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DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

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King of the World



DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES



Lawrence B. Smith
(*Lon Smith*)



Illustrated with photographs
Foreword by PHILIP ASHTON ROLLINS

NEW YORK
COWARD-McCANN
1936

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To
“RED” — Just A Pony



*“When you’ve wandered through creation
And you’re feelin’ kind o’ sad,
Maybe thinkin’ of the heydays
And the good times you have had,
Then your thoughts may turn out yonder
And your eyes begin to shine,
Just like me when I start thinkin’
‘Bout that little pal o’ mine.”*

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FOREWORD

MR. LAWRENCE B. SMITH, when asking me as an ex-cowman to write a preface to his book, failed to realize that the modern dudeen will scornfully date me as Victorian when she learns that I am so old as to have ridden with Wild Bill Hickock and to have talked with Billy the Kid.

Was this in the Old West? Not necessarily so; because, when I first saw the cattle country almost sixty years ago, ranchers were then speaking of an Old West that had long since passed away.

Was it in the Wild West? Yes—and no. No, as concerns all but a very small number of the persons on the range, and stridently yes, as regards the animals and the necessary mode of life. The excepted very small number of persons was composed of various types of undesirables. For instance, there was the occasionally seen professional "bad man," who—usually long-haired and always of subnormal mind—advertised himself by blatantly notching his gun-butt. For the most part he restricted his murderings to gentry of his own stripe, and so long as he remained thus selective he was tolerated by the local public. But, if ever he made the mistake of molesting a decent individual, he presently either dangled writhingly from the limb of a tree, or else was converted into a sieve. To this special sept belonged Billy the Kid, whom modernists have lauded as a sort of paragon. If they be ill content to let Billy remain in the sordid historical niche befitting his record, they should not attempt merely to heroify him—they should canonize him as the patron saint of the morticians.

Not infrequently the robbers of a bank or a stage coach or a railway train, preferring the loneliness of the range to the intimate society of a sheriff's posse, would furtively visit

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cattle-land where, unless attacked, they ordinarily were inoffensive. Then, too, there were the brand-blotters who, however destructive to our assets, were generally more or less companionable. And of course there were from time to time, in certain localities, disputes—some of them marked by shootings—between the ranchers of cattle and those of sheep.

But, all in all, the controlling people of the old-time range were thoroughly dependable folk.

As concerns the animals, there assuredly has been a change; this, on the part of the cattle though not of the horses. The modern horse bucks just as violently as did his great-great-great-grandsire, even though it used to be claimed that all Texan mustangs pitched in order to exhibit their pride in the size of their state. For the cattle, there is a different story. Vanished—presumably forever—are the great herds of long-horns; beasts actually more dangerous than the grizzly bear, because for a short distance fleet as a ridden horse, for all distances and moments having savage instinct and ever possessed of cruel weapons, they would charge at sight any dismounted person they saw within a quarter of a mile.

More numerous roads, increase in population and the extension of telegraph and telephone have rid the outlying range of a further bugbear—death by starvation.

Another departed element is the sturdy egg. In my boyhood, none of the ranchers—save a few of those near the towns—assayed to keep chickens and, accordingly, eggs were considered a great luxury; so much of a luxury that when twice a year the men of an outfit went to their “shipping point,” the first food they sought was scrambled eggs. Scrambled, since, as every careful housewife knows, the only feasible way of outwitting a thoroughly stale egg is to scramble it with onions.

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The eggs which ranch-land ate were all obtained from Iowa, Illinois and other parts of the Middle West, were all more or less antique and on the range were known as "states' eggs," inasmuch as ranch-land had not yet outgrown the pioneers' geographical distinction between "The West" and "Back home in the States."

The dude ranch happily makes no effort to serve such eggs or even to confine itself to the old-time conventional menu of beans, bacon, tomatoes, tough freshly-killed beef, sour-dough bread, poor coffee, "biled" dried apples and now and then potatoes. Incidentally, this menu denoted an easily remembered dietary because on Tuesday you knew exactly what you were going to have for dinner a year from the following Saturday; that is, provided you had any dinner at all.

Nor does the dude ranch restrict its vegetable garden, as we perforce did, to a six-horse wagon load of canned tomatoes with a few sacks of potatoes atop them.

Passed into history are many other phases of the old-time life, a life which on the whole was so dangerous that the average cowboy had but seven years of activity before serious injury shelved him. However, many of the dude ranches offer opportunity for the dude and dudess, if they keep their eyes open, to see the Old West through the big end of an opera-glass; but they should take care that they do not see it as reflected in the bowl of a spoon.

In offset to these expired risks, the dude ranch has invented for its own use a potent, if bewitching, hazard—the automobile at night with a blithesome young dudess at the steering wheel. Not so long ago a most attractive, city-bred damsel, making her first sojourn within the limits of the cattle country, was quartered at a dude ranch to which she promptly enticed her

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aged and adoring grandfather—a veteran cowman. Within a week after his arrival, and just before dawn, he strolled from his cabin and musingly stood in a plot carrying on all four sides large signs which read: "Autos not allowed beyond this line." Four Ford cars returning from a dance swept around a corner and raced across the plot. When the old gentleman had somewhat recovered from a fractured pelvis and three other breaks, he blurted in mixed indignation and affectionate pride: "Hell! I've fought injuns, an' I've topped off broncs. Hell! When ridin' the Texas Trail for five years, I've headed many a cow herd that had bust wide open and gone on the prod. But, Hell, I never was generally and teetotally mashed till I put up at that dude ranch. Why, Hell! I used to think three thousand long-horns runnin' at me when I was edgin' 'long a cut bank was bad medicine, but—I tell an' Glory!, I savvy now that I hadn't seen nuthin' to compare with that tin stampede—an' to think that its lead steer was my own goddam beautiful granddaughter!"

On the other hand, there are bygone things which the dude and dudeen can neither hope to hear or expect to see. For instance, the very best of today's profanity is anaemic as compared with the robust blasphemy of years ago. There is reason for this. The dude wrangler is not called upon to practice in advance of the holding of a competitive cursing match between the punchers of one county and those of another. Did not old Slim Spencer for three successive nights perch himself and his whiskey on the bunkhouse roof and "cuss the moon" in order properly to fit himself, as he thought, to outswear any buckaroo in the Gallatin Valley? The fact that on the third night he fell through the roof and broke his arm terminated his period of training; but, nevertheless, while his arm was being set he

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emitted some very poignant remarks. As for spitting, it is a lost art. Where can a dudeen today witness men vying with each other for distance, speed, accuracy and quantity?

But there are certain compensating substitutes; as, for example, the blue jeans, the bat-wing chaps and the ten-gallon hat. Blue jeans, now the official costume of dude and dudeen and the characteristic of most of the cowboys were, in old-time days, donned by only sheep herders and the unambitious underlings on the cattle and horse ranches. Top riders spurned them as being symbolic of peonage. Bat-wing chaps and ten-gallon hats owe their individuality to Buffalo Bill and to Hollywood. Buffalo Bill sensed theoretic values. Hollywood followed his lead, but has outdone him. The relatively small-sized hat and the cylindrical leathern armor of bygone years have been altered to suit the histrionic demands of the show ring and the "movies'" camera, and they never gave the vast amount of pleasure that is yielded by their exaggerated descendants of today.

In his book, Mr. Smith has framed wise and pertinent suggestions for the guidance of dudes and dudeens.

Though endorsing all of them, I make bold to stress that particular suggestion which relates to considerate treatment of one's horse. In addition to the mere decency of kindness to animals, it is prudent for a person so to handle his bronco that the beast will acquire a liking for him and thus not try to quit him when chance permits. Often it is needful for a rider to dismount and permit his steed to wander about with dragging reins. If the beast detests his rider, catching of the brute may be onerous and the mounting of it still more difficult. In the Indian fighting days and in the time of the long-horns, a fraction of a second might be the determining factor between life

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and death, and many a rider's life was spared by the willingness of his friendly cayuse to refrain from errantry and from side-stepping the rider's leap into the saddle.

In the decade of the seventies, one of our cowboys had in his string a whittling pony which, because of the man's wise usage of it, possessed all the faithfulness but none of the demerits of that irritant brute—the so-called pet horse. On this cowboy's starting one morning for distant line-camp service, he was seen to be riding his whittler and to be leading a bronco, new both to him and the whittler. Next day at dawn, this bronco, travelling alone, limpingly returned to the ranch house—an arrow hanging from a shoulder. It was snowing, so all hoofprints were soon obliterated. The searching party eventually discovered silhouetted against a hillside a disconsolate horse with its head hanging low. An approach revealed it as the whittling pony, which had refused to leave its wounded rider lying on the ground.

Lest some cynic reader think this episode unduly sentimental, it will not be amiss to add that this same puncher some four years later became a noted "brand-artist" and in due time was made guest of honor at a necktie party.

Mr. Smith has urged fair play toward the dude wrangler and also has sketched at considerable length the descent of the horse. It would be wise for the dude to be mindful of the fact that if his own conduct be unfair to the wranglers, they will publicly announce his lineage and grant it far fewer generations of ancestry than Mr. Smith has allotted in the case of the horse.

After all, the Old West has not wholly gone. The blow flies and the dust are still in evidence.

That the dude and dudette may find excitement even though

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there no longer exists any likelihood of being scalped, that instead of the meagre provender of long ago they may have "hyas muck-a-muck," and that they may enjoy perusal of Mr. Smith's book is the sincere wish of

PHILIP ASHTON ROLLINS

New York City.

August 4th, 1933.

A WORD FROM THE SAGEBRUSH

THE AUTHOR, Lawrence B. Smith, has been kind enough to ask my opinion on the chapters of his book dealing with dude ranching and dude ranch horses. I have returned the manuscript to him, without correction. His grasp of the situation, the problems of the "Boss," the difficulties of pleasing so many types of "paying guests," the possibilities of the future in dude ranching, its solution or failure, are so accurately portrayed that any change is unnecessary.

"Larry" Smith, as we know him here in Wyoming, is an excellent analyst of the life on a dude ranch—moreover, he is a horseman and a sportsman. His frank admission in these chapters that an expert horseman from the East can still learn something in the West about horses and their handling, is proof of his broadmindedness, careful attention to detail, and fairness. Moreover, he speaks from the viewpoint of both *dude* and *savage*, not only from the angle of an observer, but also from experience gained from the actual handling of horses at the ranch and on the trail.

Those of you who have, or do, take exception to the term "*dude*," or "*dude ranch*," should have your fears allayed after reading this book. The expression was coined by the Western public to indicate, in a short and concise way, people who were not residents of the Rocky Mountain States.

The years that Larry Smith has spent, as my friend and guest on the Valley Ranch, have been well worth while, if for no other reason than his perception of the Western Ranch—its trials, tribulations, pleasures and efforts to preserve at least a bit of the Old West. It is my hope that prospective guests of these ranches will read this book and, in doing so, realize that we people, who live in the West, are trying to give our guests

A WORD FROM THE SAGEBRUSH
the most ideal type of vacation based upon outdoor life and
plain living.

Adios,

IRVING H. "LARRY" LAROM
President
Dude Ranchers Association.

The Valley Ranch,
Valley, Wyoming.
July 7th, 1933.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I HEREBY wish to express my appreciation to Philip Ashton Rollins for his delightful Foreword which is the sauce of my humble endeavor. His remarks as an author and old-time cowman, in the days when "men were men" and life was humming, should be of the utmost interest and pleasure to those who may chance to read this book.

I also want to thank my old friend, Larry Larom, for his friendly comment and for the opportunity which he has given me in years past to see much of the Rocky Mountain West and gain experience and wisdom thereby; nor can I forget those old-timers, roughnecks and savages of Wyoming, who through their kindly interest in a one-time *dude*, helped to enrich these experiences and the memories of bygone years. I am thinking of them all, among whom are:

Carl Downing,	Ed. Homequist,
Shorty Schaeffer,	Simon Snyder,
Alby Russel,	Slatts Thompson,
Joe Jones,	Peg Webber,
Mont Jones,	Jake Schwoob,
Burr Spaulding,	Dave Shelly,
Dud (Slim) Smith,	Doc Cash,
Phonograph Jones,	George Carter,
Art Holman.	

Some of these have crossed the Great Divide. May they rest in peace.

To many others who have contributed to this volume, either with information, illustrations or in kindly and courteous assistance, I extend my deep appreciation, and especially to those publishers who have generously allowed me to quote from works which they have published, thereby enriching my efforts immeasurably, and helping me to pass on some of what

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I think we all should know. Through necessity only a few of them are listed below.

LAWRENCE B. SMITH.
(Lon Smith)

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Great Northern Railroad.	" "
Rock Island Railroad.	" "

HOWDY

THAT the old time West is slowly passing, there is little doubt. This is a trite saying but, nevertheless, unfortunately true. We are continually reminded of it either by some ambitious writer, or by the growing absence of those things which we have always connected with it. Little is left of the old cattle and range days; in fact, except in a few sections, they have been almost entirely blotted out by the remorseless advance of science and civilization.

To find a true bit of the typical Old West of frontier or cattle days is ever growing more difficult; yet it is being presented to us continually by fact, fiction, art and photography. Of the Old West in its original rampageous, hell-for-leather and carefree, bloody days, we have ample documentary evidence and record, and for this colorful history we are indebted to such well known artists as Frederick Remington, N. C. Wyeth, Ed. Borein, Will James, Joe de Yong and Charlie Russell, to whom a great tribute was paid by Will Rogers in his Introduction to Russell's *Trails Ploughed Under*—a masterpiece of its kind.

We also owe a great debt to such outstanding historians as Theodore Roosevelt, Philip Ashton Rollins, Emerson Hough, Colonel Henry Inman, John C. Van Dyke, Charlie Siringo and others; also to those modern fictionists, such as Harold Mulford, Zane Gray, Andy Adams and Owen Wister, who have drawn so many stirring word-pictures of the best and worst types of the old western characters. And, again, we must include those writers of verse such as Arthur Chapman, E. A. Brinstool, Jack Thorp and Badger Clark, who have put in verse so many incidents, customs and characteristics of the Old West and the American cowboy. Nor can we omit

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those western-born screen actors who by their art, experience and understanding enable us even now to relive that colorful period of history. I mean William Hart, Tom Mix, Hoot Gibson, the inimitable Will Rogers, and others. Last, but not least, let us pay tribute to that master showman who possibly did more to immortalize the western frontier than any single character, Colonel William F. Cody, better known to history and all small boys as Buffalo Bill.

To all these, I say, we owe a debt of gratitude for preserving to us for all time that which colored our frontier days and the types of characters which helped to make America the great nation that it is.

Those days are gone, or nearly so. The reason for them to a great extent is gone, and soon all that will remain will be the records so carefully compiled by those great artists and writers and kept for us as a reminder of what used to be.

There is still another in whose debt we are—one who is still trying to keep alive some of the old western life and color which we are so loath to let go; one who is trying to give the present generation an opportunity to see that of which they have read, and to live to a small extent, at least, that life which so appeals to all romanticists, and in the original setting. To bring true the dreams of the small boy who, seeing a Wild West Show for the first time, from then on wanted to be a cowboy. To give us all who have such desire a chance to get the urge for a free outdoor life out of our systems, and by so doing, and in the manner thereof, add to the well being of those who seek it. I am speaking of the *dude wrangler*. He is keeping alive the last remnant of the old romantic West in the flesh, as it were. He is giving the cowboy a chance to keep his identity in part at least and, what is equally important, he is making a reason

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for the continued existence of the cow pony, or western horse.

In writing this book on dude ranches and horses, I have done so with two main ideas in mind; first, to try and put in one volume many facts and fancies which I, a one-time dude, have been able to learn about the West, its ways and especially its horses, which are to me of the utmost interest, and in reality the basis or bottom of it all. Without them there could have been no West as we know it was. Secondly, it has been my desire to help those interested, yet possibly less experienced, to a better understanding of what it is all about; to help the dude, or dudeen, who contemplates visiting the West for the first time to become acquainted in advance with some of its habits and customs; to teach them the meaning for otherwise hardly understandable things, also the whys and wherefores of the equipment and routine of a dude ranch, to tell them something about horses, western horses in particular, with which they will come in contact and have use for, hoping by so doing not only to help the riders but also—and must I confess it—more to lighten the burden of the ponies, by giving their riders a better understanding of them and what they endure.

I have tried to write all this in simple and comprehensive language, using as many synonymous words and expressions as I thought advisable, with the idea of acquainting those who may not know them with the names of things with which they may come in contact possibly for the first time; and all this with a fitting apology to those *real* western writers who have preceded or may come after me. I am not attempting to pose as a cowboy or an old-timer, but I am merely trying to explain things from the viewpoint of an easterner who has known and loved horses and has learned to love the West. My

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mistakes probably will be many and I will tread on the toes of many westerners in regard to ideals and theories, but I do it unintentionally and with the hope that my errors may be condoned in light of that which I am trying to convey.

Also I have tried to lighten the load of the dude wrangler, for I know what *that* means, and by explaining the position and difficulties of host and guests to foster a closer cooperation between them to their mutual benefit and happiness. Lastly, I have hoped by chronicling these facts and fancies to do my small bit for the West which I learned to love in a comparatively short time, both as dude and savage.

Looking back over the years, I find that many of the happiest and most beneficial days of my life were spent there. Out in the open country which somehow gets a grip on you and keeps calling you back to it, a country which somehow seems different, alluring and necessary for a while at least, especially in these days of turmoil and strife; a country "out there" which calls alike to the tired business man, the world-weary cynic and the romanticist of youth; a country that knows no boundaries, even now, and has no ending and no beginning, except as Arthur Chapman* puts it:

"Out where the skies are a trifle bluer,
Out where friendship's a little truer,
That's where the West begins;
Out where a fresher breeze is blowing,
Where there's laughter in every streamlet flowing,
Where there's more of reaping and less of sowing,
That's where the West begins."

* Arthur Chapman—*Out Where the West Begins*—Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston and New York City.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES



Snowin' 'em down-country

Photo Belden

CHAPTER I

THE DUDE RANCH AND ITS PONIES

I've ridden nigh a thousand leagues upon two bands
of steel,
And it takes a grizzled Westerner to know just how
I feel;
The ranches dot the strongholds of the old-time
saddle-men,
And the glory of the cattle days can ne'er come back
again.

 Oh, the creek of saddle leather—

 Oh, the sting of upland weather

When the cowman roamed the foothills and drove in
ten thousand steers;

 Through the years, back in the dreaming,

 I can see the camp-fires gleaming,

And the lowing of the night-herd sounds, all faintly,
in my ears.

—CHAPMAN. *The Cow-puncher's Elegy* *

DUDE ranching, as it is carried on today, is a regular business just the same as any other kind of ranching. The dude wrangler, as the boss is called, has his crops just like other ranchers; but instead of critters (cattle), or horses, it is dudes. This type of ranching has grown in leaps and bounds during the last fifteen or twenty years from scattered small places which took a few summer boarders to help out the bank account and bring in a little dinero to hundreds of ranches with a well organized business that handle thousands of dudes annually, with a gross income of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Many ranches take dudes as a side line while still running cattle or raising horses, but many have turned to dudes as their

* *op. cit.*

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

main crop and either have let the animals go or just keep enough to meet requirements. Cattle and horses stopped being a paying proposition except with a few big outfits some years ago, but some spreads still run a lot of beef and horses under their brand and operate as in the old days; but they are getting fewer and fewer. Some think that the cattle business is coming back because of the cheapness of the land. Instead of trying to raise beef in the North country, where the winters are tough but the grazing is good, they will raise it in the South, Texas or in the Southwest, and then ship it north, as yearlings, to feed out and market. This would do away with the long drives and the trail herds where loss of weight and stock was considerable, and get the young beeves well started in the South where the winters are comparatively easy. Whether this will ever prove to be practical is a question, but all lovers of the West and western horses hope it will be so, for a new lease on the cattle business would mean a new lease of life for the cowpony and western horse, and to see this type of horse go out does not cheer those who have ever come in contact with it, whether they be just tenderfeet or the old-time cowboys. Probably, however, this will never happen altogether because there are such great areas of rough country which will never be worth much for anything but grazing stock, and where a person can't get around on anything but a horse. Anyway, we all hope that the good old days, which those who have lived them love to remember, and those who have not, love to dream about, will come back. We are going too fast, and, most of us are chasing our own tails and getting dizzy doing it. What we need is to slow up and get back some of that which this modern civilization, science and continual push to get somewhere has robbed us of.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

But I have wandered from the trail. The dude ranch, or guest ranch, as some like to call it, is an institution grown up from the old time ranch. Many ranchers found that they couldn't make a go of it any longer with cattle and horses and so tried to piece out by taking boarders and running an occasional pack or hunting trip. This all looked good to the easterner and tenderfoot and the idea became popular; gradually more and more of them came to like the West and what it gave them. Then other outfits sprang up; not real ranches at all, but just farms catering to summer boarders and giving them little except a poor idea of the West and its people. All this is gradually being straightened out by the "honest-to-God" dude ranchers with the backing of their official organization, the Dude Ranchers Association. This association, while small at present, is growing fast and trying to put the brand of authenticity on the business. Because a dude ranch is not a member of the organization does not mean that it is not a top ranch, but if it is a member it is pretty apt to be right as far as the association knows.

Dude ranches are located in many states throughout the West, mostly in Wyoming, Montana, Idaho and Colorado; also in the Southwest in such states as New Mexico, Arizona, a few in California and Oregon, and of course elsewhere. Naturally the ranches located in the northwestern states have a summer season and those in the southwestern states a winter season, which varies with the climate. Also the type of ranch, buildings, equipment and cowboy clothes, as well as the country, varies with the locality. This is to be expected, just the same as you expect things to be different in the mountain country from those in the desert and plains. So if you want to see adobes, mesquite, chapparal and cactus, don't go to Wyoming, and if you want Rocky Mountains, woolly chaps and big

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game, other than mountain lion, don't look to the Southwest. Each has its own atmosphere, and while they blend in pretty well as you work from one country to another, still the different sections are distinct in ways, customs and scenery, and what goes with them.

In the North they speak of a saddle bunch as a remuda and in the southwest as a cavvy. In Wyoming, a horse herder is a wrangler and in the Southwest a cavvy-wrango,* and so it goes. Types of horses also change with the locality as well as the dude wrangler and what he has to give.

A dude ranch is really a guest ranch, and some owners like to call it by that name because they think that the word "dude" might offend their guests. As a matter of fact, the word "dude" is just a brand stuck on a guest of such a ranch and has no idea whatever of ridicule or disrespect, which I will try to explain later. Some guests object to the name of dude, but it has been handed down for a long time and to change it now would root up a lot of work and a trademark that has taken years to establish.

The dude wrangler's job is not an easy one and he takes a lot of punishment that he does not deserve, as a general rule. He has a great responsibility in many ways and if he is honest, on the job, and hopes to stay and build up a business, he has to give good value all the time. Competition is strong and the crop of dudes getting bigger and bigger, but what counts is the repeat business.

In the first place the dude wrangler must be true to the ideals of the West; he must be a square shooter and must give a dollar's worth of goods for each dollar. Too many types of business these days just try to get by, and get it all the first throw,

* Also cavvard, and caverango or wrango, hence wrangler from cavo and rango; thus rancho, range, rancher, ranger, etc. (from the Spanish).

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with no thought of the future except that they hope there will be enough customers to keep their rackets going on fresh stock. This doesn't work in dude wrangling, and a dude ranch to succeed must give its guests what they pay for. They don't want just a vacation in the country with a three-legged cayuse to bounce around on; they want a taste of the West as they have pictured it, and they want it both materially and in spirit. This is possible if the dude wrangler has brains and is square, and if he is wise he will look ahead and not back.

During the recent years of boom and prosperity business for the dude ranch increased by jumps. Customers were plenty and different; they had money and wanted comforts; they wanted a change and were willing to pay for it. Most of them didn't have a hankering for the West so much as a chance to shake out the wrinkles of a fed-up society life and so demanded the luxuries and furbelows of which the early dude ranchers hadn't even thought. They wanted exclusive cabins, private baths and such, and the dude rancher wanting their business built up his ranch along these lines. Business increased, but as it increased, the fundamental basis of it was being undermined until the whole structure was threatened. The western atmosphere was being beaten down and it would have been hard to get it back. Then the boom collapsed and things slowed up and the old type of seekers after the open spaces started coming back, oftentimes to a changed and not so pleasant picture. The wise dude wranglers soon sensed this and are now trying to regain the old type of trade with the old ideas and ideals. They are wise, and if they want to survive will keep on trying to preserve that primitive atmosphere which is the breath of life to the dude rancher, and always will be.

The dude rancher has to cater to all types of people of both

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sexes. Some want it rough; some want it soft and comfortable—and he must suit both. He must dish out the "wild-and-woolly" in a nice, clean, comfortable way and that in itself is not easy. He must provide amusement, excitement, atmosphere—yes, and even romance, and still keep all under control and running smooth. He has to use care and judgment in the choice of his staff from the choreboy up to the foreman, and pick and choose in a country where often there isn't much to pick from. He has to provide comfortable quarters, baths, green vegetables, fresh meat and fruit, where oftentimes supplies have to be hauled forty or fifty miles or more. Besides these things, there are the household problems of laundry, dairies, vegetable gardens and the like. The dude expects good food and comforts, as he is paying for them, and figures he rates them—and so he does. But have a heart for the dude wrangler, who has to figure it out and have everything right, on time, and all the time.

Dude ranches have many attractions to offer their guests, depending upon the locality and country they are in and what they can show. In some countries there is good fishing, some duck shooting and prairie chicken in season. Others are big game countries where elk, sheep, goats and bear are to be found, as well as moose, deer and even antelope. Other sections, such as the Southwest, may have mountain lion, deer, turkey, quail or other game birds and animals. Then there are the pack and camping trips, picnics and such, also the daily rides and hikes, or just sitting around the corrals and watching the wranglers and riders handle the saddle stock, or a bronc-peeler uncork a snorty one. Sometimes there is a rope-spinner in the outfit who will demonstrate his skill, and the yearly rodeo often is within striking distance.

Photo Beldem

Running in the Remuda



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Some ranches run beef and horses. Then there is the interest and excitement of seeing a real outfit at work branding cattle or breaking horses, and one may even get a chance to look in on a round-up. Then again, there is the ranch show where the riders top off a bronc or two, or fork a steer.

The main job of the dude wrangler, however, is his ponies. The dude horse or dude pony, as it is often called in this connection, is the breath of life of the dude ranch. Without the horses the whole idea would be meaningless; the West was built up on horses and they are a part of it—a most necessary and vital part, and if one doesn't want to ride, he should look for some other place to spend his time. A person doesn't go to a ranch to play tennis and golf, or sit around all day playing cards—if he does, there is something wrong with him. He goes to get something he can get in no other place and to get it he mostly has to ride. It is a big country and automobile roads are scarce and don't usually lead to the places a person wants to go. Horses are a big part of the outfit and dude horses, good ones, are the mainstay of the dude wrangler.

Dude horses have to be good horses and they have to be gentle-broken and reliable. All kinds of people ride them and most of them are strange, either to horses in general or to western horses in particular. So the dude wrangler has to pick his stock pretty carefully and nothing is left to chance. One mistake might cost him a lot of business, to say nothing of misery and regret, and it is plain that on this point in particular he has to be super-careful. To get together a big string of gentle, well broken horses, which any kind of rider can sit and handle, is no easy matter and a lot of stock has to be picked over and carefully chosen before a bunch is right. Add to this the fact that about fifty percent extras have to be carried to take care

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of replacements, makes it no easy job. Besides this there is the pack-string, and saddle trips to think of, and the work horses for the ranch.

The foreign buyers for the last two or three big wars pretty well picked over the choice stock of horses in the West, and for a long time nothing much was done to replace the good stuff taken out of the country. The result was that horses generally deteriorated in quality and size, except in special localities where a breeder was wise enough to look after his breeding. After a while some ranges became over-run with a multitude of wild, weedy horses which had little market value and were a menace to the grass on which a better grade of stock should have been feeding. This fact soon became evident and big round-ups were staged. Many thousands of these scrubs were driven into corrals, shipped and slaughtered for meat. While it is hard to think of horses being killed for their flesh, still it is best in the end, for the good ones are culled out so that the grade and quality have a chance to improve instead of run down.

The Remount Association, which was started some few years ago by Mr. August Belmont, has done a great service to horse breeding in general, and western horses in particular. Through the efforts of this association, thoroughbred stallions, from the best blood lines, have been placed at stud in different localities and many have been turned loose on restricted ranges by western horse breeders and run with selected mares. All this makes for better and bigger horses which will have a better market than the small, though useful, stock of the old West. The eastern, and in fact any market for horses, calls for a big, strong, active horse with enough hot blood to give him bottom and courage and be able to carry the heavy impost of army



Puttin' it on a doggie

Photo Foster

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equipment in the case of the remounts, and to pull caissons and light guns and wagons, to say nothing of the heavy draught and working stock.

The cow ponies, whether rope or cutting horses, or just circle-horses, can be smaller though they have to be all horse and quick and fast. A big coarse horse, or even one suitable for an officer's charger, is no good in this work. They have to be quick and wiry and yet big and strong enough to stand the shock of an eight hundred pound steer stretched out at the end of a piece of three-eighths inch hemp rope, and be able to tote a one hundred and eighty pound rider, a forty pound saddle, and what goes with it. But above all, they have to be quick and catty.

The dude pony is a different problem. He must be plumb gentle and not too big or far off the ground, as it is easier for an inexperienced rider to mount and dismount from a low pony than a big horse. He doesn't have to carry so much weight as a general rule and not for as long a stretch. Besides this he must be reliable and not too hard to look at, and easy to handle. All this looks good to the dude and takes a lot of worry off the mind of the dude wrangler. Dude ponies don't have to be bred especially, because if they are there would be a lot of small, weedy, gentle ponies of little use for anything. If the bigger and better stallions are crossed with good western mares, there will be enough small horses of the right type to take care of the dude trade and some to spare, while the more saleable type of horse, its quality and grade, will be always improving. The market for western bred horses is getting smaller and smaller and the type and quality have, therefore, to be up to top grade to get the buyers. Dude ponies are not culs but are a specially selected type of pony, hand picked, or should be, for the job.

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The dude pony is just a gentle riding pony and its name came along with the dude ranch, dude and duddeen. He is just as honest a quad as his rougher brothers and sisters, and his name is just like that of his rider or owner—a word to know him by—and doesn't mean that he isn't a first class little gentleman, which he most usually is. A wise dude wrangler will keep up the quality of his ponies, and if he will but realize that they are his background, and on them he depends to a great extent for his livelihood, he will give them more than a passing thought.

The old cow outfits had their remudas for their riders, but with the exception of the trained rope and cutting horses and the cowboys' private saddle horses, much of the stock was green and many were broncs or worse. A cowboy had to pretty near be a bronc-stomper, and topped off practically every horse he threw a leg over; and he changed mounts three or four times a day when on round-up. That was his business; that's what has made him the greatest rider in the world today, and put him at the head of the list of expert horsemen for all time. Dude ponies are different—they have to be practically perfect, and to guarantee this is no small job.

Types of horses or ponies vary with the sections of the country. In the Rocky Mountain West there are more apt to be small stocky horses, or big-little horses, as they are usually called, which are good for rough country and mountain trails. These are more apt to be solid colors such as bright or blood bays; browns, blacks and roans, with here and there a buck-skin or iron grey, and of course the occasional pinto. The cattle ranchers liked solid colors, and pintos—light grey or white horses—were not as a rule thought so much of. Whether this was a matter of taste, and the fact that dark solid colors were less conspicuous, or whether they had the idea which generally

The Crossin'

Photo Brown, Courtesy Valley Ranch, Wyoming



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prevails that light colored horses sometimes lack stamina, is a question.

In the open plains country, the horses are apt to be more rangy and higher on the leg; here ground-covering ability is needed more than in the rough, mountain country where a good walker is prized over a horse that can travel at a high lope.

In California, there are many palominos, apalooses and sorrels, and the horses are bigger in bone and in frame which holds true of the west coast in general. The Oregon horses are apt to be big and strong and darker in color, with few fancy ones. The pinto is popular with the Indians and usually runs smaller, but few have any real quality. Pintos are also popular on dude ranches, as are mixed colored horses, and make good ponies as they are pretty gentle, as a class, and always look well under saddle.

All kinds of horses have their place in the West and are picked out and trained for their particular job. Western horses are the result of much crossing, and re-crossing of blood lines in a big, unfenced country where it was practically impossible to keep blood lines even halfway pure, as a general rule. Scrub stallions, however, and inferior stock were generally disposed of in the old days. Much has been done, and much is being done, to help this situation and it is the hope of every true horse lover that horses will continue to hold their place in the world.

The origin of horses, whether western or eastern, Rocky Mountain or desert country, is the same. True, different crosses and the introduction of new blood lines, environment and conditions had its effect on the final type and quality found in the different sections. However, when the smoke and dust of argument blows away, the fact seems to be recognized that the western horse, or in fact the American horse, first came from Spain

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and was introduced into this country by the Spaniards, as was the cattle business and all that went with it. Strange to say, history claims that the first known horse, when he was a little fellow about as big as a dog, originated in that section which is now Wyoming, before the Ice Age. History then trails him all over the world, and before he again shows up in Wyoming, he has traveled plenty.

I have taken a look-see at this story, and am going to try and tell briefly how the dude pony got from Wyoming, where he had three toes, around the world and back again, after a period of many thousand years

CHAPTER II *PONY ORIGIN*

Still the blood that's within ye thrills in a heart
As strong as a thoroughbred's is at the start,
An' the swish of a rope, or the six-shooter's voice,
Or the yell of a puncher would make ye rejoice,
An' to you the smoke from the iron is as sweet
As the perfumes that hint of a lady's retreat.
Ye're useless today, but while ye're alive,
Ye'll ornament earth like an old forty-five.

—LINDERMAN: *To an Old Cow Horse**

To most people the word cow pony or bronco means but one thing—the wild and woolly bucker, generally pictured as a tough, mean-looking pony, either trying to unseat a fancy dressed cowboy or straining at one end of a stretched whale-line (rope), the other looped to a long-horned steer or fighting horse. Farther than this visual image they seldom go, unless they happen to have seen a Wild West Show or rodeo where the cowboy played an important part, and thus have gotten a better look at the so-called bronco. Of his origin and his haunts, his mode of existence and the reason for it, they know nothing; and of the manner in which he is broken and trained and the things he does for and against man, they hear little and see less.

The western horse or cow pony, as he is generally wrongly designated, is just as interesting and maybe more so than his blooded and aristocratic brother of the East, even if he is not connected with long lines of race horses and such, bred and reared in the bluegrass country of Kentucky, or abroad. The

* Frank B. Linderman—*Bunch Grass and Blue Joint*—Charles Scribner's Sons, New York City.

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word "thoroughbred," in its strictest sense, to quote a noted authority (Fleitman), "applies only to the breed of "running" horses eligible to registration in the stud-books of America, England or affiliated stud-books for thoroughbreds in other countries."* While this is the literal meaning of the term, I think it has come to be connected in the minds of many of us a great deal with the characteristics of a horse, or other animal, which were supposed to be contained only in the pure blooded strains. Unfortunately, this does not always apply, for there are thoroughbred points in any strain, and a half or quarter-bred horse may exhibit high grade characteristics which may be entirely lacking in some pure bred animals. However, no matter what the horse is today or where he is located, when the whole thing is boiled down they all come from the same stock, and the same beginning, and whether they end up as Derby winners in Kentucky, or just broncs and dude ponies in Wyoming, they all started even.

Authorities differ somewhat as to the origin of the horse, and there are arguments for and against their various viewpoints, backed up by the records of historical research, which I have tried to follow. To go into the matter exhaustively and in detail is unnecessary and out of line with our subject, but a brief outline of how horses came to America may be of interest.

Early records show that it is possible that horses existed in the wildernesses of Idumaea in the seventeenth century B. C. but the uncertainty of early translations casts doubt upon this presumption. The earliest authoritative records in Egyptian and Biblical history places this point in the time of Joseph 1715-1689 B. C., there being no mention of horses at the time of

* Lida Fleitman—*Comments on Hacks and Hunters*—Charles Scribner's Sons, New York City.

Courtesy Columbia Pictures Corp.

A Horse Herd in the Desert Country



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Abraham's visit two hundred years previous (Brown).* Again it is stated that horses were introduced into Egypt by a nomadic race called the Hyksos, from western Asia through Syria and Arabia 2159 B. C. (Hale). Another authority states that they were introduced into Babylon about 1800 B. C. during an invasion of the Kassites, a tribe hailing from the shores of the Caspian Sea. (Adametz per Brown.)

As the Hyksos brought horses to Egypt so also did Solomon introduce them amongst the Israelites in the tenth century B. C. (Brown),* although some contend that they came thence from Canaan.

Undoubtedly Arabia as well as the adjoining Asiatic countries and Greece received their first horses from Egypt, and from these sprung the horses of southern Europe.

From Southern Europe, horses naturally spread to the northern portions of the continent, though probably over a period of many years, and to a great extent through the medium of invading armies. The Tartarian breed, found wild from the Volga region to upper Asia and the northern provinces of China, is said to be traced to the cavalry horses which were released in that part of the country because of lack of forage during the Siege of 1657 (Herbert).** This is easy to believe when one takes into consideration the fact that stallions were used, to a great extent, by the ancient warriors.

As for England, horses seem to have been in general use at the time of the Roman invasion; others say, due to discovery of fossil bones, it is possible that the horse may have been a native

* William Robinson Brown—*The Horse of the Desert*—Derrydale Press, New York City.

** Henry William Herbert (Frank Forester, pseud.)—*Horse and Horsemanship of the United States and British Provinces of North America*—Stringer & Townsend, London.

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there. However, it is more probable that he was introduced by the Gauls and Phoenicians, who preceded the Romans (Herbert*). History tells that horse racing was indulged in at York by the Romans during their invasion at the time of King Servius A. D. 206-210 (Oettinger—per Brown).

At the time of the war between the Moors and Spaniards (A. D. 712), the horses of Northern Europe were powerful and large, while in the South they were lean, sinewy and active (Hough)**. This point seems to tally in some degree with the early conditions in our own country and plainly shows that climate plays an important part in the physical development of the horse, as in all animals.

The Moor is said to have prized his horse highly and developed him into a saddler. Due to climatic conditions this horse became sinewy and tough and could endure much hardship and heat. Hough** says: "The Moors were always horsemen, and they brought from northern Africa with them into Spain the horse of a hot, dry land, a waterless land, where the horse was alike a necessity and a treasure." It was this strain that was introduced into Spain and later to the American Southwest, although at the later period it had increased somewhat in size. The Spanish horse was, therefore, of Moorish strain and later improved by fresh infusions of Arab and Barb blood (Herbert).*

As for America, there may or may not have been horses here previous to the coming of Europeans, due to the finding of fossil bones which, however, remain for the most part unex-

* *op. cit.*

** Emerson Hough—*The Story of the Cowboy*—D. Appleton-Century Co., New York, N. Y. All subsequent references to, and quotations by, this author are taken from this volume.



Bunchin' up

Photo Hal E. Raach

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plained (Herbert).* As I have stated elsewhere, expert opinion has it that the horse in its inception, a diminutive specimen, existed before the Ice Age in that section of North America which is now known as Nebraska and Wyoming (Ridgeway).** The horses of which I am writing in the main, were also Wyoming horses and so have traveled—let us say, a big circle from and to Wyoming over a period of many thousands of years.

At any rate, the horse evidently became extinct in America for some reason at an early date, in which connection Herbert* says: "It is indisputable that in no part of America, insular or continental, nor in Australia or any of the Isles of the Pacific, have any traces of the horse been discovered by the first navigators who had visited, or the first colonists who have planted, their virgin shores." — He goes on to state further with regard to the probable source of introduction of the horse to America: — "The wild horse of America, therefore, is of undoubtedly Spanish origin; and is to this day marked by many of the characteristics of that race which shows by the fineness of its limbs and the peculiar formation of its head, the large admixture it possesses of Moorish and Barbary blood."

He goes on to say that horses were first introduced into South America as early as 1537, and it is possible that they may have worked their way north to our own country; but it is more likely that the North American horse came from horses either liberated by the Spanish Government, or escaped from early expeditions in the southwest. In this connection he says: — "It is somewhat doubtful to me whether the horses found in a feral state in Texas and the Mexican provinces, are not the

* *op. cit.*

** William Ridgeway—*The Origin and Influence of the Thoroughbred Horse*—Cambridge University Press.

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descendants of chargers escaped from the romantic expeditions of De Soto through those very regions; rather than those liberated at the abandonment of Buenos Ayres, or the other escaped or emancipated animals of Spanish breed from the Southward of the Isthmus." However, all this may be, evidence seems to point to the fact, that the original Mexican and Texas horses were of Spanish origin, and the originators of the herds of wild horses called *mustangs*

In rounding up the facts so far, Hough puts it neatly when he says with regard to the ancestor of the cow pony:—"The horse of the Moor became the horse of the Spaniard, and the horse of the Spaniard became the horse of the Spanish-Indian or Mexican, which in turn became the horse of the cattle trade which was handed down along with it."—He goes on to tell us that man was first warrior and then cattleman, and that in the old days warriors paid for their wives in cows, somewhat the same as the Indians did in ponies. Also that the word *pecuniary* being derived from the Latin *pecus*, meaning cow, leads us to believe that at one time the cow was considered very highly, and possibly as the "unit of all values." Following this line of thought, it does not stretch our imaginations much to believe that since the cow was a wandering four-legged critter, a cow-horse was more or less necessary to control them, even in the dark ages, although there is a vast difference between a sacred-bull and a Texas long-horn. Anyway, an old Roman or Egyptian cowboy must have been some hombre. Again he tells us that the Sanskrit word for *king* means nothing more than "*chief of cowboys*," or as we know it, ranch foreman. So the big-shot of a cow outfit must date back for some time.

However true this may be of the ancient days, it is probable that the cowboy, as we think of him, really came from Spain—

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and the cattle business too, and thence to us by way of Mexico. So, all in all, the cow business appears to have been a pretty well established trade and the cow pony an important part of it at a right early period.

To go back to the ponies which we left in Mexico, there is little wonder that they thrived there—having, as they did, the blood of a hot, dry country; and whatever traits they may have possessed, due to their breeding, would naturally have become stronger in that climate. So as Hough* says it is natural that they should lose flesh and gain angles and toughness during the succeeding generations. Their looks were in part displaced by toughness, and the texture of bone became denser than the spongier texture of the heavier northern horse, and more like ivory. In turn there developed a conformation for quickness and toughness and their lungs developed by the rare, pure air, and gradually they conformed to the hard conditions in which they found themselves forced to exist. They became small, tough and wiry, and as he very concisely puts it in referring to the cow pony: . . . “It stood less than fourteen hands high and weighed not more than six hundred pounds, but it could run all day and then kick off the hat of its rider at night.” This is the original horse of the Southwest, the original cow pony, and all his brothers descended from him coming from Mexico and Texas along the east side of the Rockies to the plains of the North and East and along the west side to the Southwest, California and Oregon.

Authority states that as late as 1700, the northern Indians of our country were not generally possessed of horses, while the southern Indians were well versed in their use (Hough).* Thus it is pretty clear that there were but few horses in our Central

* *op. cit.*

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Western States at that time; and it is probable that the southern ponies gradually drifted north along with the cattle business at a much later date. As they reached wet climates either on the West Coast or elsewhere, the type naturally became stockier and heavier. This is characteristic in the larger type of horses found in California and the West Coast states, and it is probable that these later day offshoots when bred back helped to increase the size of the original pony. There is little doubt but that the French and English at a later date brought over from northern Europe horses of a much larger type, which gradually drifted out through Canada to mingle with their tough little relations of the central and Rocky Mountain West.

The cow pony of the Southwest is designated by that name, while the term cayuse** should be used in connection with the pony of the northern plains (Hough).^{*} The latter name, however, we think of as used more in connection with the Indian pony; and this is probably as it should be for in most cases the Indians still stick to the small, native stock, while the present-day breeder in the West is continually crossing and recrossing to get more size and bone. Since there exists today the remnants of a once powerful Indian tribe called the Cayuse, it is easy to believe that the name Cayuse originally came from this connection, especially since the State of Oregon, where the tribe ranged was, and still is, a great horse country. However, the reverse may be true and the Indians taken their name from the fact that they were horsemen. With regard to the so called Indian Pony, there seems little doubt that it is for the most part a cross between the southern mustang descended from the Spanish horse and the Canadian strains drifting in from that

^{*} *op. cit.*

^{**} Sometimes called broomtail, or fuzz tail; bob-tail, cuitan, and mustang

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direction. It is stated that the ponies of the north were more apt to be of solid colour, while many in the south were spotted or *pinto*,* which would seem to bear out this theory.

The tendency in the West today is to breed more for size and bone, and practically all breeds—from the heavy Percheron to the Arab—have been tried. In most instances, these strains became greatly confused as little or no record of breeding was kept. However, in later years a great deal has been done to obviate this and to introduce pure, fresh blood into the West.

Usually horses will stay on or near their home range where they were born. This to some extent helps to keep a purer strain. But where several owners graze stock in the same locality, confusion in blood lines is bound to occur. It is evident that the present-day western horse is bigger and stronger than his tough little Spanish brother of the early days and is fast displacing him in the Central West at least. This is generally so except in the case of the Indians who for the most part still stick to the tough, wiry ponies of the early type.

The trail of our cow pony has been a long one, but all trails have an ending, and upon them are tracks and the reading of these tracks, by those who have studied them, seems to make sense, and anyway gives us an idea of what has gone before.

Note. In writing on a subject of this character, one of course invites much criticism, due to the various theories with regard to the origin and coming of the horse to America. All I have attempted to do here is to briefly and impartially sketch the subject, using such authority as I could find, and making such quotations as I thought would be of interest to the text.

AUTHOR.

* Spanish for paint. Also called Calico or Paint Horse, which corresponds to the eastern words—Piebald (black and white) and Skewbald (brown and white).

CHAPTER III

EARLY LIFE

His maw, she ranged up Boulder way,
An' he close by her side,
Lest some ol' cat or kiote wolf
Start clawin' at his hide.
This world ain't got no grief for him,
An' he don't care a lick
So long as he gits his three squares—
This lit'l red-eared slick.

AUTHOR: *The Li'l Red Eared Slick**

Let us go a step further and have a look at the cow pony's early life and upbringing and compare it, as a matter of interest, to that of the blood horse of the East. However, before going farther, possibly a word on terms may be in order so that there will be no misunderstanding. To start with, the word "bronco" or "cow pony," as we have said before, is used as a general designation for the western horse; but there is a distinction that should be noted. In the first place, we have the "mustang," which refers to the wild horses which originated in the Southwest. Then there is the "bronco" (from Spanish for wild) or unbroken horse; the term being applied in a general way to partly broken, or rough horses. Then we come to the "cow pony" of the South, or the "cayuse" of the North. The latter term, however, should be limited more to Indian ponies. These latter are the trained horses of the cowman, the chief tool used in his work and not to be confused with an ordinary saddle or riding horse, for many well-broken, gentle horses are far from

* Lawrence B. Smith (Lon Smith)—*The Sunlight Kid and Other Western Verse*—published by E. P. Dutton & Co., New York City.

Photo Beldam

The Water Hole



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cow ponies. As a matter of fact, a cow pony is just as distinct a type in the West as the polo pony is in the East, and is trained for his job just as carefully but with the throw-rope substituted for the mallet, and with the difference that the cow pony gets his experience along with the day's work, while the polo pony is usually schooled for the game alone.

Again, cow ponies can be divided into two general classes: rope-horses and cutting-horses, the rope-horse is trained to the rope which necessitates his running true behind the animal to be roped until the noose is thrown and then running out at the proper angle and propping, or "jumping into a set," to take the shock when the string (rope) finds its mark, then standing with a strain on the twine (rope) while the rider ties up or otherwise handles the animal he has dabbed (dropped) his loop on.

The cutting-horse, or whittling pony, also has his special job and is equally prized according to his ability; his duty being to deftly "cut" an animal from a herd, *peratha*, or bunch, and "haze" it along, usually leaving the actual roping to the rider of a rope horse. The speed, quickness and sagacity of this type of cow pony is easy to imagine. The work these horses did is well put by Van Dyke, when he says:—

"If you are on his back, you found out instantly why the cowboys rode in a deep saddle, with a long stirrup, and their foot pushed through the stirrup to the instep. Even with those aids you would often have difficulty in keeping your seat when the horse turned to follow the cow. The wrench of it was wicked—so much so that in those days a cowboy over thirty, riding a cutting horse, was a rare sight. Only the young men could stand the strain."*

* John Charles Van Dyke—*Open Spaces*—published by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York City.

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Then there is the "outlaw" and the "bucking-horse," the former a recognized bad specimen and acknowledged unbreakable, the latter kept in an unsubdued state because he is a good bucker and hence more valuable as such. These are the bad eggs of the broncos, another of which is oftentimes the "pack horse," although there are some pack horses prized for their steadiness. These latter are generally used to pack breakables and such things as the camp stove, which must be handled with care.

The opposite of the outlaw is the dude horse or gentle saddle, usually reserved for the tenderfoot.

This practically completes the list, all of which are classed as western horses. On the other hand, all western horses are not broncos or cow ponies or any of the rest of them, and they are just as distinct types as the race horse, hunter and hack of the East.

Since we know which is which, let us compare the early life of the little cow pony or western horse and the eastern thoroughbred—the aristocrats of the West and the East—or rather the roughneck and the dude of American horsedom. Maybe, by so doing, it will be easier to understand some of the things that come along later.

Picture to yourself the eastern thoroughbred or blooded horse, foaled and reared in the bluegrass of Kentucky or Virginia, who from the day he is foaled is watched and tended as carefully as an infant. He and his dam are provided with the best of grazing, shelter from the weather with shade when the sun is too hot, and warm barns when the cold winds of winter sweep down over the country. He is handled like a pet, gentled and nursed by his trainers and owners and showered with attention and thoughtful care. His training is carried on systematically and carefully with just enough work to keep him



Climbin'

Photo Hal E. Roach



Lookin' After the Slick

Photo Hal E. Roach

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fit, and by easy stages he is brought up to the point where his real work begins—whether it be as hack, hunter, or race horse.

His education completed, he becomes the occupant of a comfortable stable where he continues to get the best of care, is groomed once or twice daily, fed on oats, hot brand mashes and clean hay, as much as is good for him, and all the water he wants at the proper time. He is exercised and worked to keep him fit and, if a hunter or racer, is put through his paces, sometimes gruelling, it's true, but after it is all over he is cleaned and rubbed down, blanketed, bandaged, and cooled out within an inch of his life.

Now look for a moment at the little roughneck's existence in the mountain districts of Wyoming or Montana, where there "ain't no such thing" as bluegrass or timothy, or oats, except for the chosen few.* And he plugs along as best he can, never handled nor gentled by man except at round-up, branding, or breaking time, and where he thinks of human hands only as wielding a rope or branding iron.

Take a little colt whose dam has been through a hard winter with four or five months of snow, sometimes two or three feet deep through which she has had to dig for her scanty pickings of dead grass, where the thermometer might register anywhere between fifteen above and thirty or forty below zero, with now and then a driving blizzard to help things out. After such a winter, the spring finally comes with the old lady pretty well tuckered out. Then along comes the little "slick,"** and together they pick through the short spring and summer, out in all weather, with scanty feed at the best and even the water getting scarce during the dry spells. Added to these hardships is

* Some western grasses are strong feed when available.

** *Slick* is an unbranded horse or mare, usually young, as it is the custom to brand as early as possible for identification.

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the danger from a grizzly, or mountain lion, or rattlers, or a bunch of coyotes. The little fellow must learn to look out for himself from the first. Then when he is scarcely well started along comes the winter again and the colt has to weather it along with his dam.

Perhaps he has been branded,* but probably it will be the next spring when the round-up starts. He is then driven down from the hills along with two, three, four and five-year olds, brood mares and saddle stock, and hazed along into the cutting corral where finally he is cut out, roped and thrown, hog-tied and branded, then turned loose with the rest of the non-useable stock and driven back to the hills, or the summer range. Imagine the feelings of this little roughneck in comparison with his pampered eastern brother, but at that he doesn't take it so hard, for he is bred differently and these early hard knocks go far towards toughening him up for his later life, which at the best, is not easy.

Thus he goes along through hot, dry summers and hard, cold winters for three or four years longer. If he survives he is then a tough little four or five year old, when his troubles usually begin. That spring he will probably be jerked out of a bunch of young, unbroken stock along with a number of others of about his own age, and his education is begun and it is usually short, but not sweet.

So you see the heredity, instinct, lives and upbringing of the dude and the roughneck follow different and widely divergent paths and necessarily produce, bring out and strengthen traits of horse character which are quite understandable though different. From the description given here of the dude, as I call

* The laws of Wyoming provide that any owner allowing live stock over six months old to range upon the open range shall take out a brand, brand his stock and register the brand.

Photo Beldin



Hazin' the Colts and Mixed Stock back to the hills after Branding

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the type of eastern horse of which I have been speaking, he should, because of his easy life and careful upbringing, be a model of virtue and good manners. This, as we all know, is not always true as is the reverse in the case of the roughneck, for there are ugly rogues in the ranks of the dudes as there are sweet tempered gentlemen amongst the roughnecks.

The western horse is not subjected to unnecessarily rough treatment and hardships; he is cared for as far as circumstances and conditions of the country allow in a practical way. Few people love horses as do Westerners. But they are usually less demonstrative about it and in some cases must be severe. In the East a saddle horse is usually a luxury or a pleasure vehicle; in the West he is a means of transportation where in many cases no other is available, and hence is a necessity upon which one relies, and is treated accordingly. He cannot be pampered, as time and conditions do not allow it, and the circumstances surrounding his daily life require that he get tough, and that as quickly as possible.

In the East we are apt to size up a horse by its looks, or to a great extent put looks ahead of performance, except in special cases. Provided a horse is sound and good-looking, his manners and style of going are to a great extent put in the background, except by the wise few and in the case of the show horse. In his case, while looks are necessary, manners and style of going are essential. This point was well summed up by Miss Fleitman,* one of America's best known horsewomen, when she wrote:

"For example, in the hunter we demand strength, speed and ability to perform over fences. Appearance, with the possible exception of the "show" hunter, is but a secondary

* *op. cit.*

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consideration. On the other hand, in the hack, comfortable gaits, manners, training and good looks are prime requisites, while in the show hack even gaits and manners seem entirely and completely secondary to 'looks,' and 'looks' alone."

In the case of the western horse on the other hand, soundness and ability come first and looks last, if considered at all. Of course looks are not scoffed at, and a good-looking mount gives fully as much satisfaction to a cowboy as to a show ring rider, if not more; but usefulness comes first. The traits prized in a western horse are endurance, carrying ability and gaits, coupled with a certain amount of agility and speed according to his job. Remember, a western horse carries a saddle, weighing from thirty to forty or more pounds, as compared with the twelve to sixteen pound eastern saddle, and usually a big man dressed in heavy boots, spurs, chaps and the rest of the western equipment which is not light in any way. He may carry his rider thirty or forty miles, up hill and down dale, over rough, flinty mountain trails, across rivers and through timber, and at the end of it all just have the saddle jerked off and himself turned out to rustle his own dinner and be ready for the same thing the next morning. These qualifications, however, are elastic and conditions change. In some sections of the country a pony with speed and quickness is prized, as in an open flat country. In the mountains, a good walker and a weight carrier is more desirable—and so it goes. But in any case usefulness is put ahead of looks and style, and endurance is thought more of than action.

The main points to be desired in a good mountain horse may be summed up by saying he must be a *big-little* horse. That is, he must not be too far off the ground, he must have good, strong



On the Romp

Photo Hal E. Roach



Restin'

Photo Hal E. Roach

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legs with plenty of bone, a strong back (not too long) and a chest that denotes power and lung capacity beyond a doubt. He should be well rounded, compact and agile, with hocks well under him and a good slope to his shoulders. By agile, I mean not a slug. A horse of even disposition is to be desired in preference to one that is excitable, for there are many ticklish places on a mountain trail. Conformation is very deceiving in a western horse and the fine points that seem so important in the East fade to nothing if he can deliver the goods.

The term pony has been much abused, and originally meant a diminutive species of horse. American show standards limit its size, but modern polo ponies may run to practically any height. However, one nowadays usually thinks of the word pony I believe more with regard to disposition and agility than to actual size within limits.

In speaking of Indian ponies, or mustangs, as he calls them, Van Dyke* says: —

“With the advent of the big herds of cattle upon the ranges of the Montana-Wyoming country there came in a better class of horses. The mustang was reduced to ‘a five dollar cut’ (meaning you could cut out and buy any horse of an Indian bunch for five dollars) and a half-Oregon horse took his place. He was a little larger than the mustang, not quite so hardy or agile, but better broken and trained, especially in handling cattle.”

Another important point in a western horse’s qualifications is sex. Mares are not popular as a rule as saddlers in the west, and are seldom allowed in a working remuda, due not so much to the fact that they are apt to lack some of the qualifications of the horse or gelding, either in ability or stamina, as to their undesirability due to their sex. A mare thrown into a corral with

* *op. cit.*

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geldings will often cause much fidgetting and kicking, especially if there happens to be a stallion nearby. The same thing applies on the trail where a mare will often either cause trouble, or form an affinity with one or more geldings and often literally "lead them astray." Therefore a gelding is obviously the better liked saddler and is generally used when possible.

The fact that too much care of a horse is impractical in the West on account of circumstances as well as finances is made more understandable when one realizes that a good, well-broken, sound saddle horse, five years old or more, can usually be purchased for from fifty to seventy-five dollars, with broncos and unbroken stuff in car-lots as low as fifteen to twenty-five dollars.* And a price of one hundred dollars for a saddle horse is considered high. Of course prices vary, and have their ups and downs, and a well broken cow-horse or cutting-horse may bring as high as three hundred dollars or more, but when compared with prices in the East where one thousand dollars is cheap for a hunter and where high grade stock sells anywhere from this price up, with race horses at any old price, it can easily be seen why they are pampered in the East and why they cannot be in the West, even were it practical.

So, while every move of the dude is followed, his breeding tabulated and his birth registered, the roughneck on the other hand, is just one of the herd and grows up with a multitude of others in obscurity, and little notice is taken of him until he shows himself good or bad, when he will become a cow pony or an outlaw, or something in between.

The late Theodore Roosevelt** briefly sums up the uses and characteristics of the western horse in the old days of Dakota,

* The old time bronc used to sell at from two to three dollars per head in lots

** Col. Theodore Roosevelt—*Hunting Trips of a Ranchman*—Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York City.



Hazin' 'em out

Photo Hal E. Roach



Pals

Photo Hal E. Roach

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and states most emphatically and honestly his opinion of a bucker, when he says, referring to his ranch:—

“All the work is done on horseback and the quantity of ponies is thus of necessity very great, some of the large outfits numbering them by hundreds; on my own ranch there are eighty. Most of them are small, wiry beasts, not very speedy, but with good bottom, and able to pick up a living under the most adverse circumstance. There are usually a few large, fine horses kept for the special use of the ranchman or foreman. The best are those from Oregon, most of them come from Texas, and many are bought from the Indians. They are broken in a very rough manner, and many are in consequence vicious brutes with the detestable habit of bucking. Of this habit I have a perfect dread and, if I can help it, never get on a confirmed bucker. The horse puts his head down between his forefeet, arches his back, and with stiff legs gives a succession of jarring jumps, often ‘changing ends’ as he does so. Even if a man can keep his seat, the performance gives him about as uncomfortable a shaking up as can be imagined.”

Except for his gradual disappearance and change in type, the western horse was much the same in the old days as he is now, and the aversion to getting jolted or piled* was likewise present, and shared by the mighty as well as the humble.

* Bucked off, or thrown, also called chew dust, hit-the-dirt, hit-the-dust, sun-your-moccasins, pickin’-daisies, etc.

CHAPTER IV *BRANDING*

Gee! but I'm mad, and stiff and sore,
My shoulder sure does hurt
Where those big bums just threw me down,
Then rolled me in the dirt.
They held me there, by head and heels,
Gosh! I did squeal and kick,
Then burned an ugly mark on me
With their old red-hot stick.

—AUGUST: *Branded**

WE HAVE seen how the little western colt has passed his first winter, and the circumstances under which he came into the world. Now comes the next important step in his life and connection with man—that is, branding. Usually a colt will be branded before he is six months old, probably on the fall round-up, but maybe he will be carried over until the following spring, as he will stick pretty close to his mother during the first winter. This trait in a colt, as well as in a calf, establishes an undeniable claim of ownership and many a decision has been handed the owner of the dam where there is question as to the ownership of the colt or calf. However, it is customary to brand a colt as early as possible for safety's sake, and strict laws have been made with this in view.

Before going further it seems fitting to say a few words concerning the origin of branding in justice to the stockmen, at least, and in order to set at rest the minds of those who through unfamiliarity with the custom may regard it as a useless cruelty.

Branding, as well as the cattle business, seems to have origi-

* op. cit.



Branding a Rough one

Photo Author



A Leg up is all that is Necessary

Photo Author

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nated in Spain and was handed along to this country with this industry and the cow pony by way of Mexico and Texas. Whether any thought of identifying marks were used on the ancient cattle is a matter of guess-work.

Branding in the old days was much more primitive than at present and authority states that the first branding iron was a pointed metal rod, with which the ancient cowboys would draw rude pictures or designs on the animals' sides. This, of course, has been changed and systematized and is today regulated by well chosen laws covering all its points.*

It is easy to see that as cattle and horses have been since the early days considered as one of the main items of an individual's wealth, and as they could wander of their own free will, there had to be eventually devised some sure means of identification in order to protect the owner. Thus the brand has long been of importance and a law unto itself which was forcibly dealt with when the occasion arose. In this connection Hough** states:—

“The sign of ownership on the cow range was as patent as the iron bars of hoarded wealth in the settlements. The respect for this sign was the whole creed of the cattle trade. Without a fence, without a bar, without an atom of actual control, the cattleman held his property absolute.”

As it is with cattle, so it is with horses, except if anything it is more marked because since the horse was the means of locomotion and livelihood in a vast land, his importance to his owner increased; and to steal a horse was a much worse crime than to steal a cow.

* See Live Stock Laws and Regulations of Wyoming (1921) in Appendix, for examples.

** *op. cit*

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It is plain that an identifying mark of some kind is necessary for the protection of the stock owner, and so far the branding of stock with a hot iron has proved the only satisfactory method of applying this mark. The popular error in thinking that this method of marking stock is unnecessarily cruel is easily understood if one but gives it a little thought. In the first place, the actual pain of applying a hot iron to a horse's hide is very slight and the struggles, squeals and kicks indulged in by the subject are due more to fright than to pain. I have seen the branding of many horses, and in the case of gentle, broken stock, nothing has been necessary to keep them quiet except the tieing up of a forefoot or holding a coat or sack over their eyes—and they hardly flinched. A horse's hide, especially a western horse, is thick and tough, as one finds when using spurs on a stubborn mount. Their sensibilities are comparatively blunt and in no way to be compared with human beings or even to their high-strung, thin-skinned, and hot-blooded eastern brothers.

Many might express the view that a hoof brand or ear mark would do just as well and not be nearly so painful. A hoof brand, however, is not permanent as a hoof grows out; also this mark, as well as the ear mark, can be easily changed with but slight chance of detection. It is also practically impossible to pick out a hoof brand, or ear mark, on a bunch of wild young stock in the hills—maybe in a rain or snowstorm, or in the swirling dust of a corral, where there may be from two to ten or more different brands represented. Branding on the hide is the only practical way of marking stock for identification on the range; and it doesn't hurt any more than being vaccinated.

It is hardly necessary to go into the details of branding for it is so simple that anyone must know it, but possibly a word would be wise. A branding iron is a strip of iron wrought into

SOME BRANDS AND HOW TO READ THEM



Quarter Circle
A H



Rocking Lazy A



Lazy Bar H



Crossed Sabres



Lazy J D



Double Dee



Quarter Circle
Lazy Open A



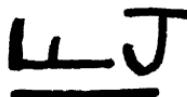
Heart T



Lazy M R Bar



T Cross



Lazy F J Bar



Rafter Y



Four Bars



Circle H



Apple



Y Cross



M Quarter Circle L

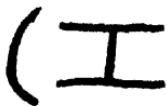


Lazy Z Cross

SOME BRANDS AND HOW TO READ THEM



Bar BC



Crescent Lazy H



Diamond Double L



Flying A



Double Diamond



J-Flag



Rocking Lazy B



Seven H Seven



Double M



M Bar M



F Slash



Saddle Pocket



Rocking NF



H Bar 9



Rising Sun



Diamond-and-a-half



Acorn

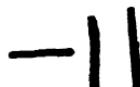


J Y

SOME BRANDS AND HOW TO READ THEM



Arrowhead



Bar 11



H F Bar



Triangle A



Spear X



Quarter Circle U



R Bar



Crescent H Bar



W H Quarter Circle



Bar 1 Z



X 4



Quarter Circle J



Tepee



Medicine Wheel



Bar M C

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the shape of the desired brand mark—such as a triangle, a circle, straight bar, numbers or letters, or a combination of these. For convenience, this design is welded to an iron bar, or handle, to enable it to be thrust into the fire, heated and handled. In operation the branding iron, or "iron," as it is generally spoken of, is heated to a good cherry red and then applied to the part to be branded and pressed down once and held until the outer hide is seared. This kills the hair and leaves a permanent mark that is distinguishable at a distance and is permanent throughout the lifetime of the horse or cow.

The brand is a mark of identification and ownership and to change a brand, unauthorized, is about the same as forging a check, except that the penalty was greater in the old days (and probably is yet in some sections of the country). The practice of branding another man's stock or changing a brand was indulged in a good deal by cattle and horse thieves—principally the former, as the returns were quicker and there was less chance of discovery. These thieves were termed "rustlers," or "brand blotters," and when caught were meted out a drum-head court martial, or something to that effect, and usually went out to the tune of a six gun or hemp necktie (hanging). Rustling became so popular at one time that stockmen banded together for protection, and the extent of such stealing can be understood from the following quotation from Van Dyke:*

"All this was decidedly irritating to the cattlemen. They were too busy to chase horse-thieves, but they cursed loud and deep. At last one summer the hat was passed around among the stock growers. Large sums were raised, men were hired at exorbitant prices, and an organized campaign was started. I was told (quite in confidence) that the bag that season was fifty-two horse-thieves shot on sight,

* *op. cit.*

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and left just where they were shot. The result was that for several years thereafter the export trade in stolen horses through the Black Hills rather languished."

One of the methods of stealing stock was to brand a maverick, or *slick** belonging to another owner with the thief's own brand and then to claim the youngster at the annual round-up when it had been weaned away from its mother.

Another way of stealing stock was to change the brands either by blotting out the old one or by working it over into the one desired, and then at the proper time when the brand had thoroughly healed, to claim the animal. For example, the brand represented by a circle could easily be changed in a number of ways by adding a line here or there; such as— O or OI (circle bar); IO (ten) or one O); or IOI (one O one); or the brand Y can be easily changed to Y (rafter Y); or Y (Y cross); or (Circle Y) — Y. These examples are of course very simple by way of illustration, but it is easy to see that unless a brand was chosen carefully with this possibility in view, trouble was apt to occur.

When stock changed hands through legitimate sale or exchange, the brand of the former owner was crossed out or *vented* by running a straight line through it and the brand of a new owner put on and a record kept. This, however, was often not done and a proper bill of sale mentioning brands and their location, together with a brief description of the animal with identifying marks, was considered as proof of legitimate ownership. In buying stock, one had to be particular that the bill of sale was correct and complete, as it was his protection should any question arise.

In changing or venting brands, a "running iron" was often

* A *maverick* was an unbranded calf, and a *slick* an unbranded colt.

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used. That is, a plain rod or ring, and the change drawn on just as one would use a burnt stick in drawing a picture, unless stock was dealt with in large quantities where the new owner's iron was used. Due to the fact that the ring type of running iron was used extensively in the illegal re-branding of stock (as it could be packed easily and unseen), laws were enacted which limited their use.

Nowadays, and in fact for a long time, all brands have been registered in each county of each state and like or similar brands are not allowed in the same county.* However, the same brand can be used if placed differently. Thus all horses, in a certain county, branded with a triangle do not necessarily belong to the same owner, for the triangle may be placed upon the left jaw, shoulder or hip, or upon the right jaw, shoulder or hip, and thus serve as a brand of six different owners, according to its registered location on the animal. Again, a brand which is distinctive enough may be used in different positions on the same spot; hence the letter S upright on the left jaw and the letter S lying flat (lazy S) may be used by different owners.** Brands that are the combination of other brands, or the result of additional lines or letters, are limited as far as possible in order to defeat the cattle thief by making it more difficult for them to change the brand.

The necessity of branding may be better realized when it is understood that most stock in the West, even today, roams and grazes at large and usually not under fence as in the East. They are out all the year and are, as a rule, gathered together only twice during that period, in the spring and fall round-up, or possibly only once each spring. It can be easily seen that in this

* Recent laws may qualify this statement, but the general idea is correct.

** An owner would often register his cattle and horses under separate brands.

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way stock, whether horses or cattle, wanders over great distances and mixes with the stock of many other owners that is likewise wandering. As a rule a horse or cow remains on its home range. This, however, is not always the case, and for many reasons such as drought, storm, lack of grazing and the like, they often scatter and drift over great distances into strange lands and to strange ranges, and sometimes unfriendly ones.

For these reasons, if for no other, it is easy to see the prime importance of a distinguishing mark of ownership, or brand, which is easily discernible, and visible at a distance, cannot be obliterated by time, weather or growth and, as far as possible, cannot be tampered with or changed by the hand of man. Branding may have its faults and may be criticized by some, but there is no doubt but that it is a primal necessity in the regions where it is practiced, and it is the only solution of the problem of absolute ownership.

Note: Authority states that originally both unbranded colts and calves were called "slick-ears". Later on the term "slick-ear", or "slick", was used to designate unbranded colts only and the term "maverick" applied to unbranded calves, the name being taken from a resident of the cattle country who was particularly good at claiming his unbranded stock.

CHAPTER V

BUSTING AND TRAINING

All the range is bein' combed of the strong and fit,
Bring more in, you wrangler men—let 'em taste the bit;

—CHAPMAN: *The War Horse Buyers**

THE breaking and training of a western horse cannot, through force of circumstances, be as careful and slow a performance as in the case of his eastern brother. So, no doubt, oftentimes good horses are spoiled in the making through rough handling and lack of care. However, such are the exception, and a quick, rough method of handling horses in the West is excusable in most cases, and the only practical way when the country, its problems and the cost of feed and market value of the horse and other factors are taken into consideration. Cowboys know horses and how to handle them, and are after results, but they cannot afford to waste time. There would be no object in raising a colt to a five-year old and then spend fifty dollars' worth of time and feed on him when he would bring only—say, sixty or seventy-five dollars at the most. So while the efforts a bronco buster expends on his pupils to teach them what's what can in no way be termed petting parties, still he is just as quick to appreciate a good one as look with contempt upon a "knot-head", and acts accordingly.

The first and most important thing to accomplish in breaking a horse is to get him to know that man is the boss; not to be feared, but respected. Nothing further can be accomplished until this is attained. Most young horses are apt to be scared and panicky rather than vicious when first handled. Their main

* *op. cit.*

Photo Belden

Front footed



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idea is to get away from man and out of the corral, if possible. They are not used to him and are nervous. I have seen horses run right over a cowboy who has stood in their way with waving arms, trying to turn them. This is, of course, dangerous and must be corrected at once, and the only practical way is to just tap such a "bull" on the nose with a convenient "slat" until he realizes that man means business. Thus he learns to respect man; that is the idea—not to fear him; that is wrong, and a horse that is afraid is no good.

The next step is to let him know what restraint means—what a rope is for. This is usually done by roping him and choking him down if necessary until he learns not to fight a rope, which he does quickly. Many old, well trained horses require roping every time they are caught up and saddled, but usually as soon as they feel the noose they stop and will stand quietly while the rider walks up to them and slips on the bridle. It often seems that a horse really gets a lot of fun out of trying to dodge, but when finally caught just stops and says — "Well, you win; let's go." I once owned a pony which I was in the habit of sometimes turning into a large feed corral. There was a brook running through it, just too wide to jump across and only fordable at two spots due to the underbrush and its depth, and these spots were at each end of the corral. In the center of the corral was a hay rack around which the horses usually were when not in the shade across the brook. I used to go into the corral to get my pony who would be quietly feeding, but as soon as I got near he would trot over to the other side of the rack and after playing hide and seek for a while would trot across the brook and if I crossed at one end, he would cross back at the other —just like a bad kid trying to dodge a licking. This kept up for a few minutes till finally I got him cornered, when he would

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stand quietly with a "smile on his face" to be bridled and led out. He knew he had me, and I surely believe got a lot of fun out of dodging.

When the colt has become used to the rope, he then has to be made to realize that a rope is meant to hold him. To do this a "hard" rope hackamore is generally put on him and he is tied up short to a good stout corral or snubbing post and left to fight it out. Sometimes he will sulk, then he has to be stirred up and made to fight the rope, and finally realize that the sensible and easy thing to do is to stand still. Some arrive at the conclusion early, others fight hard and long, only to be worsted in the end. I have seen horses break rope after rope but finally give in, and others that never quit.

Having passed this stage of the game, the next is to teach him to be led. This is usually accomplished by putting on a hard rope hackamore and a mounted rider, unless a horse is especially gentle, taking the other end of the rope. The rider then turns, first one way and then another, jerking the unwilling bronc after him until finally he learns that a tug on the rope means turn, and will eventually turn at the slightest pressure. This is an important point in a bronc's training, for nothing is more discouraging than having literally to drag a horse along.

Having been taught to lead, he is then allowed to go a few days before further education. It is unwise to crowd a young horse. In the meantime he is rehearsed in his lessons and handled and lead about as much as possible. The schooling so far has not been accomplished in a day or two, but may have taken many, the young horses having been handled in groups as their education advanced, just like classes in a kindergarten. After a few days of this, the bridle is put on and the bronc allowed to get used to the feel of the bit. Later on a saddle or pack saddle is

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put on, and he is allowed to wander about the corral and get used to his burden. Sometimes a stuffed sack, or weighted one, will be tied in the saddle to make it more like a rider, but this depends upon the buster's ideas and the disposition of the particular horse in question. Of course the type of breaking of which I am speaking is gentle breaking where there is plenty of time. In the old days, the ponies were usually just roped, "topped-off," and ridden a bit for a few days and then considered rideable. To quote from Hough: *—"About six days would usually fit a horse for the saddle so that a good rider could ride it;"—Such horses would of course be of little value as dude horses or gentle saddlers, and a more thorough and gentler way of training was necessary. Some bronco busters or trainers do not believe in riding a green horse with a bit, for some time, having the idea that it gives them too much to think about and the danger of their going over backward fighting the bit.

About this time it is necessary to get the horse used to the pull of the reins and what they mean; in other words, *guidance*. One way of accomplishing this, in the case of a stubborn horse, is to tie one rein up short to the stirrup in such a way that his neck is bent towards that side. Thus he can proceed in but one direction with any comfort and that is in the direction of the pull. He is then turned into the corral and given time to figure it out. From time to time the reins are shifted and thus he gradually gets the idea that the thing to do for his own peace and comfort is to obey the pull on the rein. Most well broken horses are "bridle-wise" or will "neck rein"; that is, obey the slightest touch of the rein on their neck and the gentlest pull on the bit, which is most necessary to their work. This is usually taught

* *op. cit*

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them by crossing the reins under the neck. Thus a pressure on the right side of the neck, caused by turning the hand to the left, will cause a simultaneous pull on the left shank of the bit, and after a while they get to associate the two ideas and act accordingly.

The bronc having become well versed in the rudiments of control and obedience, the next thing to do is to get him used to his burden, and usually this means riding in-the-rough. Some broncs by this time have become used to man-handling and will give very little trouble to one wishing to mount, while others will fight and rear and oftentimes will have to be snubbed up or thrown and turned loose again after the rider is astride of him. Sometimes such a horse is snubbed up to another, whose rider twists or bites his ear to keep him quiet until the buckaroo is in the saddle. This often means a rough ride, for such a horse usually pitches or bucks and then has to be ridden to a finish; that is, until he finds it is no use and submits to his burden or shows himself so vicious and unmanageable that after numerous attempts he is dubbed a "bad one" or an outlaw, and kept as a bucking horse; or, if not too bad, used as a pack horse. Usually there is no effort made to spur a green horse unless necessary and no attempt to make him buck—at least at first, and some horses will let their rider mount and move off quietly after a few lessons.

There are many ways of bridling, saddling and mounting a bad horse, but such business comes under the head of bucking horses and riding and will be taken up later.

From this point, the bronc's education is more or less a matter of repetition, and he is put through his paces over and over again, gradually getting more and more used to conditions and becoming perfected in his schooling. From time to time he



Fighting the Rope

Photo Author



Jerked Down

Photo Author

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may pick up little tricks that are good and make him more valuable as a mount, and dearer to the heart of his owner or trainer. Usually after a bronc has been broken and schooled, he is turned over to an old hand and used and ridden as much as possible. An amusing example of bronc perversity at this stage of the game happened to one of the boys riding for the ranch where I was some years ago. He had been working on a knot-head for some days and finally decided to give him some road work and asked me to go along and haze for him. We had gone about a mile under difficulties as the pony didn't seem to savvy what go ahead meant, although he was pretty constantly being reminded of it with a rope end. Suddenly his patience seemed to snap. He just couldn't stand the prodding any longer and he just "broke-in-two". He was small, so couldn't buck hard, but he was quick, he just jumped into the air about three times in as many seconds and shook himself at every jump. George was a good rider but wasn't looking for this and the pony was so small that he literally jumped out from under him. The first jump loosened George and, like a sensible rider when not riding contest, he grabbed at leather but missed. The next jump he landed back of the cantle, and the third on the rocks and cactus. He certainly looked funny but he couldn't help it. Many a good hand has done the same thing and it was no reflection on his riding. He got up and having caught the pony got aboard again. The pony nearly threw himself this time, but George stuck and after a couple of half-hearted attempts the pony quit and went on his knot-headed way. He never did amount to much; just a knot-head always.

Besides the usual accomplishments of a saddle horse and the advantage of a light mouth and neck-reining, a western horse should learn to stand on the rein; that is, to stop and stand and

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allow himself to be approached when the reins are down. Split reins are always used in the West. This is a necessity for the possibility of a fall in that rough country is always present, to say nothing of mounting and dismounting in a hurry; and to be left afoot is not only a nuisance but may sometimes prove fatal.

As for the other tricks of becoming used to a throw-rope, standing-on-a-rope, cutting and such accomplishments of a well broken rope horse, or cow pony, all this is up to the individual with the knowledge and patience to train his animal, if he proves worthy. In the old days, the progressive steps in the training of a horse were often accomplished on the range during the round-up, or in the old cow camps, and all tumbled together into one. In this case, a bronc was cut out of a bunch, roped, thrown, saddled, topped-off and henceforth ridden as part of the day's work, getting his education as he went along. This merely goes to show why, due to conditions and custom, the life and training of a western horse is of necessity so different from that of the eastern quad and should be taken into consideration when comparing the two.

There is no doubt but that the eastern method of gentling a horse from colthood to maturity by gradual and continual handling, and contact with man, and schooling in a gentle way, is correct where circumstances permit. However, the old saying, "When in Rome do as the Romans do," holds good here; not because it is being done but because it is the only practical way to do it under the circumstances. For example, take the case of an eight-year-old gelding that turned up in a bunch of horses from Montana and which had never been broken. I was more than once on the end of a rope with three cowboys, with this Poker horse, on the other end pulling us about like corks.



Just restin'

Photo Belden

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This same horse plunged, squealed, fought and struck like a demon and at one time jumped a five-bar corral gate with his front feet hobbled. Later on he showed signs of being manageable, due to the persistence of his trainer, but if one were to spend too much time, hay and feed on the gentle training of such horses, the time and money consumed would, in a great many cases, exceed the cash value of the horse. Such an instance was an exception, as an eight-year-old is, as a rule, too far along to break, unless gentle. He is too set in his ways, but the idea still holds in the case of young horses when handled in quantity. It is not the buster's business to be rough with a horse unless absolutely necessary, and the gentler the method used to make them ridable the better the owner likes it and usually the more valuable is the horse. Rollins* gives some interesting observations concerning this point when he says:—

"The reason for this quasi-tenderness was that the object of most ranchmen was not to make horses buck, but to keep them from doing so. The cowboy was hired, so far as concerned horses, not to inculcate but to discourage pitching. He was paid to turn for his employer unbroken horses into money, and the buying public ordinarily would not exchange its dollars for useless, vertical motion. Hence, one ordinarily saw about a well-managed ranch only the bucking that could not be avoided. One saw much of affirmative efforts to wean a horse from the habit. There were of course exceptions, but the number of rough riding men was comparatively small

"The rough rider's object was to 'break the pony's heart' on the first riding; for, if then the idea of human supremacy could be impressed upon an animal physically exhausted by its own

* Philip Ashton Rollins—*The Cowboy*—Published by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York City.

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efforts to the point of staggering, mentally dejected from the failure of its confident expectation, it was almost a surety that the pony never again would make so violent an effort. True, it might buck again and often, but never again so fiercely. The latent dread of man would cloud every subsequent plan to pitch. To create this dread, the rough-riding buster brought down the quirt at every jump the pony made, . . .

"One horse in approximately each five hundred was an 'out-law,' a brute that never could be broken and that would buck almost in its sleep.

"One horse in, it was supposed, approximately each ten thousand was sufficiently like a 'man-killer' as deliberately to jump on his thrown rider's prostrate body."

Some horses make good saddlers with little trouble; some after much misery; some never. These, if buckers, are kept as such and if not, usually are used as pack ponies and sometimes give much misery and no little fun if you feel that way about it. In the final analysis, methods in horse handling are governed in the West, as in the East, by expediency and circumstances, and the little western roughneck, although having to take his medicine in bigger and fewer doses and without the peppermint—owing to the ways of his land and the price he will bring, does not necessarily mind it much and is probably better fitted for his rough and tumble later-life because of his early training and hard knocks.

Note: The training methods cited here are merely for example. Every rider or horse owner has his own ideas, which will vary considerably. The object of this chapter is not to lay down rules for breaking and training a western horse, but rather to give those unacquainted with the subject a rough idea of what has to be done, and some ways of accomplishing it.

CHAPTER VI *HOW THEY SIT 'EM*

He's perched upon a pair of heels that fit the stirrup's curve,
That meet the bucking bronco's plunge and counter-act each swerve;
And of all the chaps with whom the gods are ever in cahoots
Give me the cattle-puncher in the high-heeled boots.

—CHAPMAN: *The High-Heeled Boots**

THE words "cowboy" and "King of Riders" should be to most of us the same, and I think rightly so. There is no doubt but that the cowboy as an individual, or as a class, is at the top of the list in horsemanship in this country; and I think that goes for anywhere. I don't mean that he is a stunt rider, although many of them are, or that he would win any laurels in the show ring or hunting field. But for plain *ridin'* in the sense of managing and breaking a horse, taking care of it and himself under any and all conditions, and getting the most out of it with least exertion to both, he has no equal. Besides all this, he is able to ride a nasty one and takes them "as they come."

With most eastern riders, attention and thought center on the horse; that is, they are conscious of him, or themselves in connection with him, a great deal of the time. They are thinking of the horse and rightly too; of how he is going; how they are riding; how he is carrying his head; or whether he is up in his bridle, or carrying his tail correctly. This is all part of the game and must be thought of. In the hunting field they are thinking of the jumps, or the going; whether they are giving

* *op. cit.*

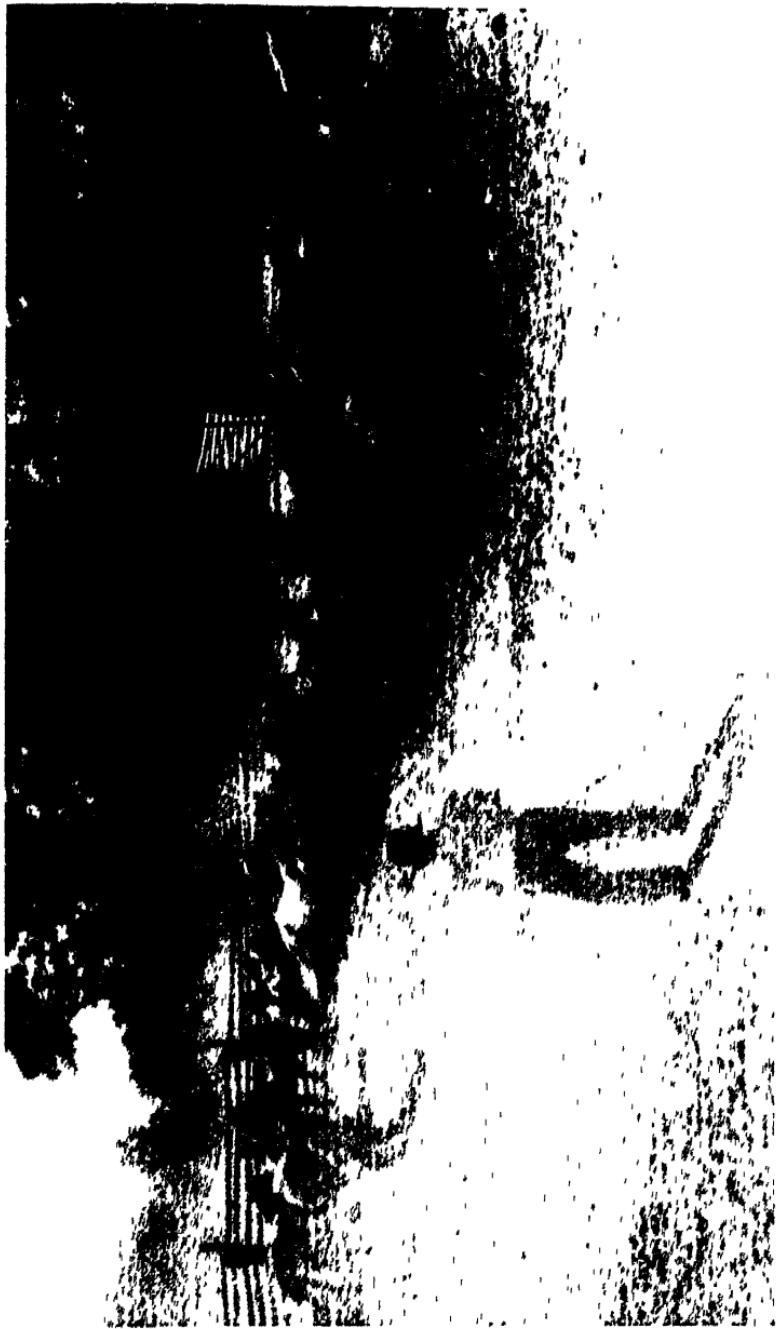
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their mount his head enough, or whether he is going to his fences properly and taking them in the way he should. In other words they are distinctly *horse-conscious* to a greater or lesser extent and for good reasons. Not because they are afraid of him, or themselves, but mostly because they do not ride enough to make the ordinary mechanics of riding and functions of sitting a horse and managing him a purely reflex action.

I have always believed that in order to be good at anything, sport or otherwise, a person must be so well versed in the mechanics and rudiments of the game and so thoroughly practiced that the mere act of doing it in itself becomes automatic. This leaves the conscious mind free to deal with the emergencies that may arise and which will require quick thought and action. Such a state of perfection is only arrived at by practice, continued and long. In the East, riding is generally just a pleasure or a luxury; or, if otherwise, it is practiced at certain required times and may or may not be a pleasure. To the cowboy, on the other hand, riding is part of his life; is in reality his job and not only his job but his means of transportation whether on business or pleasure. To the cowboy born and brought up in the open, the horse is part of his stock in trade. From boyhood up he has to *ride* or he doesn't get anywhere—and I mean just that. He rides to school; he rides to town; he rides after the milk cows; on errands and in fact everywhere he goes he rides. Later on he works with stock outfits, maybe starting as horse wrangler, where he is in the saddle most of the day and sometimes part or all of the night, and under all conditions good and bad. And all this time he is not riding one horse with which he gets acquainted, but many horses, good and bad; anything that is handy. He has to break out his own string on the ranch or the round-up; rope, saddle, ride and subdue, gentle and train

Photo Belden

Catching up Saddle Stock



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any number of horses, and probably may ride as many different horses in a day, or a week, as any one of us would ride in a month or a year, or maybe in a lifetime.

Besides the fact that he has to ride continually he *likes* it; he gets to enjoy the feel of the saddle and often gets to think a lot of his horse. I was riding with a pal of mine one sunny day through the sagebrush of Wyoming—one of those days when it is good just to be alive—when all of a sudden he gave a cowboy yell and throwing his arms about his horse's neck, said, "Boy, I don't believe I'm ever goin' to git tired ridin' you; I sure do love to fawk a pony." To me this was natural; he was enjoying himself so much that he just couldn't keep it in any longer. No wonder those boys can ride, having to do it and liking it at the same time. That is the secret of success in every line. Arthur Chapman* must have had some such feeling when he wrote the lines:

Give us the wind in our faces—
'Tis good for a man to feel!
Give us the unfenced spaces—
Give us the rowelled heel!
The song we would hear in all kinds of weather
Is the endless creaking of saddle leather.

Besides just *ridin'*, the cowboy is continually up against the bronc, bad horse, or outlaw, and has got to ride and ride hard to save his face, or himself from a bad fall. Again he has to do his work while riding, whether wrangling ponies, rounding up cattle, roping, breaking, or topping off a bronc; and in some cases he even has to shoot from the saddle. He learns tricks, such as picking up his hat or tobacco bag from the ground without dismounting—and often while in motion—not because

* *op. cit.*

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it's smart, or a good trick, but because it saves dismounting, sometimes in a ticklish place or from a mean horse. In the same way he gets to be expert with his rope, not because he just practices with it, but because he is using it all the time, so that it becomes natural. A good example of this skill with horse and rope was demonstrated at The Farm near Culver City, outside of Los Angeles, where I went with "Slim" Smith some years ago to see some high-class goat roping. The Farm was the headquarters of a lot of crack riders and contest hands who were hoping to make a stake in the movies, and between pictures they would get together and keep in shape for the summer shows. Usually on Sunday, some of the big shots would run out to see the boys and some sort of a contest would be staged. This goat roping was the favorite sport and gave them all a chance for fast, accurate work with horse and rope. The goats—as snakey as antelope—would be taken to one side of the large pasture in an old wagon; then the contestant mounted on his top rope horse, with throw rope ready and tie cord between his teeth or tucked in his belt, would get in position behind the goat. At the signal the goat would be loosed, the stopwatch snapped, and the rider started *after* the goat had passed a certain point. The idea was to rope the goat, dismount—with the horse keeping a strain on the rope (if he knew his business), and tie up three legs of the goat in such a manner that he could not get up. When finished, the contestant would throw his hand in the air and his time would be taken. This feat, as you might readily see, required speed, skill and dexterity and one hundred percent concentration on the goat, and I have seen it accomplished in twenty seconds flat from a standing start. Such a feat doesn't give the rider much time to think of his mount, or his riding. They must just be a side issue with him, and so they are.

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It is generally believed that the cowboy or westerner rides by balance alone. This is not true, as grip is also necessary to a good seat and both have to be brought into play at all times. Some riders, however, particularly in the case of rough horses or buckers depend more on grip than balance, according to their style. While one will try to get himself in the rhythm of the bucker and thus relax as far as possible, another will grip with his knees and hang on by sheer strength. But these couldn't last long. I have heard of cases where a rider's grip was so strong that he could make a horse squeal or crack a saddle tree; but this is the exception. This style of riding is tiring and naturally less graceful than the style relying more on balance, and is only possible in emergencies.

Miss Fleitman* sums up this point nicely for eastern riders when she says:—"In *Riding Recollections* Whyte Melville cleverly settles the question when he says: 'Some people tell you they ride by balance, others by grip. I think a man might as well say he plays the fiddle by "finger" or by "ear." Surely in either case a combination of both is required to sustain the performance with harmony and success. The grip preserves the balance, which in turn prevents the grip becoming irksome. To depend on one alone is to come home very often with a dirty coat, to cling wholly by the other, is to court as much fatigue in a day as ought to serve for a week— Grace, is after all but the result of repressed strength. The loose and easy seat that seems to sway so carelessly with every motion, can tighten itself by instinct to the compression of a vice, and the 'prettiest' rider, as they say in Ireland, is probably the one whom a kicker or buck-jumper would find the most difficult to dislodge."

There is no such thing as riding by balance alone any more

* *op. cit.*

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than by grip alone, but I do think that the cowboy, or western rider, due to his style of riding, saddle and its position, is prone to use the balance on all possible occasions as far as practical in preference to grip and more so than is possible with the eastern style of riding on a flat saddle.

In other words, he is more relaxed. In the first place the cowboy's saddle is very different from any other type and was developed, like most other things in his trade, for comfort and usefulness to the rider. The stock saddle is high in back and front and with a medium short seat, which makes the angle between the thigh and the body less when seated in it than in the case of the flat saddle; that is, they are more in line. Again, the saddle is generally so constructed as to set nearer the horse's withers, or rather the seat or point of burden is nearer the withers than in the eastern saddle. The main trouble with the eastern saddle is that usually the weight comes too far back on a horse and so too near the kidneys, unless a long stirrup leather is used. For endurance work, to say nothing of the stress and strain of roping and snubbing, the position of the western saddle is the best for its type of work. Following this idea with the thigh and backline comparatively straight, the line between hips, knee and ankle must of necessity be straighter than on a flat saddle, in order to swing the balance correctly. Also the swell, or bucking rolls, of the western saddle keep the knees from being too far forward. The swell also has a tendency to throw the rider out of the seat and not back upon straightening the legs if the stirrups are too short.

The cowboy seat has not been developed by the style of saddle, but rather the opposite, the best working position having been found by years of experience and frequent changes in saddle construction that have had a tendency to build the

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saddle *about* the rider. This is evident by comparison of old stock saddles with the new styles and the special "bronc-trees" which show an ever growing tendency to box in the rider and "fix" his seat by "cantle" and "swell".

Aside from the mechanical advantages or necessity of the long stirrup, it is evident that for work in the saddle the most secure position for the rider and easiest on the horse is one where the rider's body is practically erect as near as possible to the turning fulcrum of the horse's body. This point is, roughly, just back of the withers. A horse is less apt to be thrown off balance from forces exerted at this point, as he props and steadies himself with his front legs. This tendency is shown in the flat saddle in polo, and in the hunting field where the rider has to do more than just sit his mount. A long stirrup in the case of the polo player enables him to take a more erect position and at a point nearer to the pony's withers than in any other form of riding on a flat saddle. It also allows him to stand in his irons, without being top-heavy, which is often necessary. The nearer the strain and pressure bearing come to the line of the cinch or girth, the less tendency there is towards slipping and twisting of the saddle, which is most important with a western saddle, especially where great strains are imposed at critical times. The very conformation of a horse's body, unless he is extremely long barreled and flat bellied, tends to pull the saddle into the hollow of the back directly behind the withers and in a line with the cinch. The seat of a flat saddle, on the other hand, extends well back from the cinch-line or girth, and the weight naturally comes farther back unless very long stirrup leathers are used. In a western saddle the seat is fixed and fits the rider, and the length of stirrup leather is thus to a certain degree determined by the length of the rider's leg, the

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shape and width of the swell, and length of seat. The leathers are used much longer in the case of the western saddle than in the flat eastern style and for good reason. This fact has no doubt always been the case as is shown by the late Colonel Roosevelt's remarks on the cowboy's style of riding in the old days:

"A cowboy is always a good and bold rider, but his seat in the saddle is not at all like that of one of our eastern or southern fox-hunters. The stirrups are so long that the man stands almost erect in them, from his head to his feet being a nearly straight line."*

The popular belief that a cowboy actually *stands* in his saddle or rides standing is wrong. Of course at times a rider does rise in the stirrups or may stand in them leaning forward, usually grasping the swell or horn to rest his muscles, especially at the trot. But at such times there is a good space of daylight between the rider and the seat of the saddle. Were he to stand without leaning forward he would practically be sitting on the cantle. In other words, although the leathers are usually long, they are not as long as is generally believed. The position of a western rider in the saddle is enhanced to a great extent by the position of the feet in the stirrup. In this case the foot is not thrust home as a general rule, as in the eastern hunting seat. The bearing is just back of the ball of the foot with the heel slanting downward and in. Thus a rider can rise in his stirrups two or three inches by merely straightening his foot and still be resting on the ball of it, or nearly so. This position of the foot also helps to keep his spurs from contact with the horse's sides and gives the rider a better brace.

There is just as much disadvantage in riding with too long a leather in a western saddle as in a flat saddle, for if the leather

* *op. cit.*

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is too long the stirrups lose their function of support which is a big aid to balance. Sitting to the trot will be especially uncomfortable as the jolts are usually eased off by the flex of the knees and ankles, with the aid of the stirrup pressure. Length of stirrup leather must be determined by each rider so that he gets the greatest use and comfort out of them with the least effort in the way of muscular contraction, and withall a feeling of security. Hough* sums up the cowboy seat and stirrup well when he says:—

“In the saddle the cowpuncher stands nearly upright, his legs in a line from his shoulders and hips down. He rides partly with the balancing seat and does not grip with his knees so much as one must in sitting a pad saddle, but his saddle is suited to his calling and it is a bad horse and a big steer that shall shake him no matter what the theories of it be.”

The cowboy rides loose so as to ease the strain on his muscles as much as possible, but *clamps down* quickly and automatically by instinct when necessary. His seat is erect and his gripping done mostly with his thighs and knees, as his calves hardly touch the leather or the horse due to his position and long stirrup. At a lope or gallop he sits close and sways to the rhythm, gripping with the thighs and knees when necessary. In brushy country, his feet will hug the sides of his horse for protection, unless he is wearing “taps”** which make it less necessary. The reins are usually held in the left hand with the loose split ends falling on the near side, either passing through the palm of the hand with the index finger between or crossed. The hand is held high and in front on account of the saddle horn, and the right hand swings free but is always ready for quick action with

* *op. cit.*

** *Tapaderos*—leather hood to stirrup.

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the six gun (which is as a rule carried on right hip) or the rope usually tied to the off side of the swell. The right hand very seldom touches the reins except to take up slack or use the loose ends as a quirt.

Another misunderstanding with regard to the western horse and rider is that the rider usually proceeds on his way at a lope. Many western stories bring this point out as often as possible, probably because they liked the sound of it. The "tireless lope" of the western horse may be true of the plains of Texas and the Southwest desert country, and in some other flat smooth areas, but it certainly is not so of the mountain country, and range riding generally. In such country a horse with a good free walk and a gentle ground-eating trot is prized more highly than one that can cover country at a fast pace. The jog-trot is a favorite gait in getting anywhere where speed is no object (also the singlefoot, rack or "shack"), and in order to endure it for any length of time the muscular reaction to it must be decreased to a minimum and (for more than any other reasons) this precludes posting or rising to the trot, as is practiced in the East, and is necessary with the shorter stirrup. The wear and tear on the back and legs would be killing if kept up for any length of time, and thus the custom is to "sit" the trot. This is a little difficult at first, even with the deep seat and comparatively long leathers of the western saddle, but once the knack is attained, it is the easiest thing possible and requires less exertion than any other form of riding. One used to riding can pick it up fairly easily, but most novices seem to have considerable trouble; and it is a hard thing to explain. The position of the riders feet in the stirrups aids materially. About all that one can say is that it is a constant contraction and relaxation of the leg muscles to take up the jar; a slight gripping on the up-

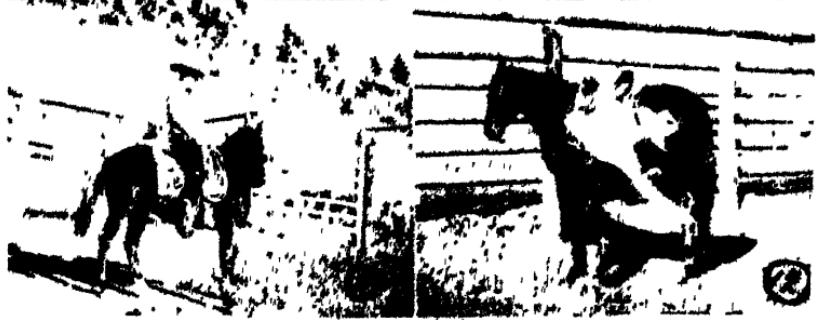
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throw and a slight muscular tension on the drop, with the body always in contact or nearly so with the seat of the saddle. The nearly upright seat used in the western saddle makes this easier; also a certain looseness and flexibility of the waist, which is a characteristic of the western rider, goes far towards making it graceful. The reason for sitting a trot is plain, when one realizes that trips from twenty to forty miles a day are not uncommon over country where it is impossible to ride faster than a jog trot or walk, and where a rider may be in the saddle for several hours at a stretch.

Seat and gaits, of course, are important but before these two most necessary ideas come mounting and dismounting. These two functions are far more significant in the west than in the east, and therefore rate some thought. In the first place, there is no groom holding the head of a western horse, and it is up to the rider to get up and get set at his own risk. I don't mean to imply that every horse is mean or vicious, necessitating constant watchfulness, but riding so many different and often strange horses as one does in the West, necessitates developing care and watchfulness in mounting as a personal safeguard not so necessary in the East. Western horses won't as a rule stand for being flopped-over and mounted in the way some eastern novices do through carelessness or lack of knowledge or skill. The act of mounting even in the case of a gentle horse should be one clean, quick motion, and with a little practice this can be learned.

There are several kinds of western mounts, such as the ordinary "swing-up," the "hop-up," the "flying-mount," and others. There are many ways of mounting according to the preference or skill of the rider. In the end, however, the method





Courtesy Eton Brothers, Wolf, Wyoming

BRIDLING, SADDLING AND MOUNTING

These photographs and captions of the proper method of bridling, saddling and mounting a Western horse are reproduced herewith through the courtesy of Eaton Brothers, Wolf, Wyoming, with due appreciation by the Author.

1. Bridling. With the rope around your horse's neck, slip the bit into his mouth, the bridle over his ears, and buckle the throat latch.
2. Ready to Saddle. Notice that the saddle is placed on its side on the ground to keep the inner side of the saddle dry and clean and the skirts from rolling—blanket on top.
3. Hold your saddle like this, keeping the reins in your left hand, for the horse may step forward when he sees the saddle coming.
4. Ready to draw the latigo through the cinch ring, always keep the reins in your left hand.
5. Properly saddled and tied, with reins *wrapped around* the pole. If the horse should be frightened and pull back suddenly, the reins will give slightly but not break.
6. Approach your horse slowly, keeping away from his heels—untie, lead him forward a few steps
7. And mount standing well forward, reins in your left hand, grasping horn of saddle with your right. Notice position of foot in the stirrup. Do not touch the cantle while mounting
8. Properly mounted. Notice position of foot in the stirrup—heels down.
9. To lead your horse—turn your back to him and walk away with the reins in your hand.
10. If you look him in the eye and pull, he will probably set his front legs and refuse to move.
11. The Western way to guide a horse—neck reining. Pressure of the left rein against his neck will turn him to the right, and vice versa. All (well trained Western)* horses are trained to guide this way.
12. If at any time it should be necessary to pick up one of your horses hind feet, approach him as shown here. Always keep the rein in your left hand and stay away from his heels.**
13. The Missouri Gate. If it is tight and hard to close, use your shoulder, as in the illustration, and it will close easily.***

Notes

* Author's correction.

** In picking up a front foot, use same general procedure, and do not get in front of your horse. This precludes the possibility of being struck at.

*** Always close all gates which you find thus. Never leave one open that is closed when you encounter it. Such neglect may cause much trouble and expense through strayed or lost stock. If you cannot close a gate, notify someone at once to this effect.

(Author)

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is much the same and following it you can't go far wrong. *First*, take the reins in the left hand and grabbing a lock of the mane with the same hand, face your mount near the shoulder with your body swung slightly facing the rear. *Then* grasping the stirrup with the right hand, place it on the ball of the left foot (don't thrust home). Now grasp the horn with the *right* hand and giving a slight upward push with the right foot, swing over into the seat, raising the right knee just high enough to clear the cantle and thrust the right foot into its stirrup. The important point in mounting is to get the left leg and knee as close to the horse's shoulder as is possible, before leaving the ground, touching it, if possible, and pivoting on it as you swing around. This, together with the fact that you are facing somewhat to the rear, and close to the shoulder, swings you towards the horse and into the saddle—should he start too soon. Another important point is to place the left foot only as far in the stirrup as is necessary to get a bearing. This enables you to withdraw your foot pronto, and not get "hung-up" should the horse rear or otherwise get nasty. A point that should be carefully watched is to keep close to your mount and thrust your body practically erect before swinging in and over; and all with one clean, unbroken motion. Don't start to swing over while still in a crouching position, and don't lean away from your horse or some day you will be caught out of the saddle.

Another mount is the hop-up and most useful on some occasions. This consists of grasping the horn of the saddle with both hands (the reins being in the left) and, with a quick *hop*, pulling the body up till the feet are nearly on a level with the stirrup, and then quickly thrusting the left foot into its stirrup, swing over.

The vault, or flying mount, takes a good man to do correctly,

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and is not used except in cases of necessity where speed is paramount. This mount can be made only by an expert. Here, the rider, grasping his reins in the left hand and with both hands on the horn of the saddle, lets his horse get in motion, running along beside him until the proper speed is attained, and then with a quick hop literally bounces himself into the saddle (with a quick roll), pulling himself forward with his hands as his body gets into the air. This type of mount is principally a matter of timing, and the speed of the horse helps materially to make it a success. It was this type of mount that was often used by the famous Pony Express riders of the old days, where speed meant everything; and the modern interpretation of it is found in the flying mount of the Relay Race Riders of the present day rodeo.

Dismounting is more or less the reverse of mounting with the body perhaps thrown a little farther forward at the beginning. A rider, if he knows his business, will shift the stirrup tread to the ball of the left foot before leaving the seat and make the act of dismounting one clean, swift motion, getting the left foot out of the stirrup as soon as possible and usually before reaching the ground. In any case, do not commit the blunder of grasping the cantle in mounting or dismounting. This at once brands one as a tenderfoot, aside from the fact that it is far from safe. It is more than foolish for the average inexperienced rider to throw the right leg over his mount's neck and slide off on the near side, as is common in the East. The shape of the saddle, the horn, long spurs, uncertainty of the horse, and the fact that you haven't got him in hand every moment makes it not only foolish but risky.

A trick dismount practiced by some bronc riders is to jump from their left stirrup as soon as their right leg is clear, pushing themselves vigorously away from the horse and landing some

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feet from him. This is all right in a corral to keep from getting struck at, but has its limitations.

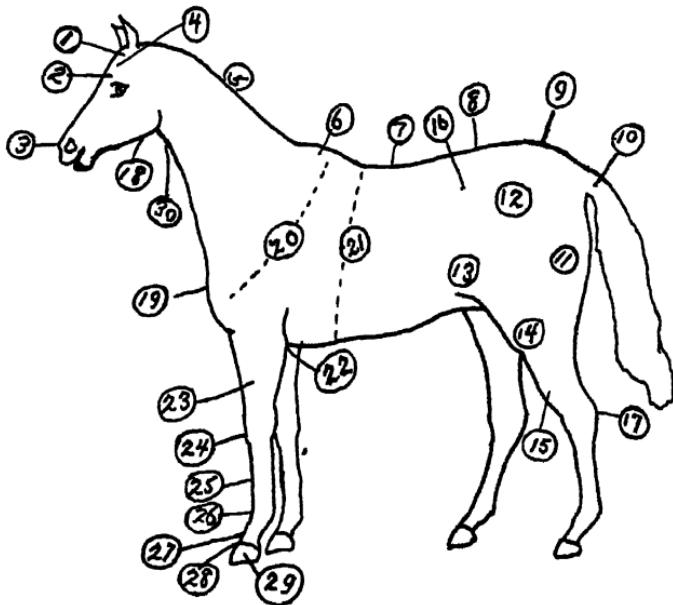
As for *hands*, it is enough to say that a well trained western horse has no mouth, or is all mouth, and is ridden practically on a slack rein. A rider does not feel a horse's mouth in the West as he does in the East, and pressure is put on the bit only when necessary. The bits are usually of a severe type and a horse learns early in the game to respect them, and their use is therefore generally reduced to a minimum. A well-broken western horse is bridle-wise, or neck-reins, as they put it, and many are taught to stand on the rein which is a most useful and necessary accomplishment. Many a rider who has been thrown or fallen has been saved a long walk, or worse, by the fact that when the reins (always split) have dropped, the horse has stood as trained. I have seen ponies stand for hours with nothing holding them but the ends of the reins touching the ground. This is sometimes taught them by tying the reins to their knees and then urging them to go ahead. A cowboy's hands are usually the gentlest on earth, but when the occasion arises can make a pony wish he "never was born"—and so they get to respect them.

There are many other points that might be taken up, such as the facts that the spur or heel is usually used as a persuader and that the whip, or the proverbial cluck are practically unknown; although occasionally a sharp, quick whistle is indulged in as a signal to go ahead. However, this is used more in driving loose horses than urging one's mount. Quirts* are sometimes used but mostly in the training stages, as a horse is less apt to buck

* Quirt—usually made of braided rawhide and often loaded (in the handle) with shot or lead. Others may be composed of a short piece of chain with rawhide braided through the links. These are for stubborn or vicious horses.

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with a blow of a quirt than he is when hooked with a spur. A cowboy needs a free hand and so must signal his mount some other way.



EXTERNAL POINTS OF THE HORSE

1. Poll	16. Kidney (location)
2. Forehead	17. Hock
3. Muzzle	18. Jaw
4. Forelock	19. Point of shoulder
5. Crest	20. Shoulder-blade
6. Withers	21. Girth
7. Back	22. Elbow
8. Loins	23. Forearm
9. Croup	24. Knee
10. Dock	25. Cannon bone
11. Quarter	26. Fetlock
12. Hip	27. Pastern
13. Flank	28. Coronet
14. Stifle	29. Hoof
15. Gaskin	30. Throat

Photo Belden, Courtesy Valley Ranch

A Corral full of Good ones



CHAPTER VII

DUDE PONIES

We have to chaperone 'em,
And let the ranch work slide!
Them tenderfeet are spoolin'
Us boys who uster ride!
They're usin' our best broncos,
And pretty soon, by jing,
A hawss won't know his bizness
In any puncher's string!

—BRININSTOOL: *A Spoiled Outfit**

A DUDE PONY is just like any other western horse except that he must be broken plumb-gentle; he must be not only a rideable horse, but he must be honest and trustworthy and capable of being handled by an inexperienced rider and not take advantage of him or his mistakes. He must be quiet and behave himself, for while occasionally a dude will turn up who can ride, most of them are inexperienced and even the experienced have a brand new problem before them. So a dude wrangler can take no chances of any one of his guests getting injured through bad judgment in the matter of mounts.

About the only thing necessary in a dude horse, besides being sound and gentle, is a little looks—yes, it is true; for no dude likes to be mounted on a rough, ugly looking brute, no matter how good a horse he may be. He likes a good looking quad, and color helps a lot; that is why pinto ponies are so popular as dude ponies. Good dude horses are comparatively scarce, because they must be safe beyond any question, and this factor

* E. A. Brininstool—*Trail Dust of a Maverick*—Dodd, Mead & Co., New York City. Reprinted by special permission of the author.

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is a hard one to determine in a western horse—that is, until he is well known. Obviously there is, or should be, a lot of weeding out and trying out before a good string of reliable dude horses is gotten together. The horse question on a dude ranch is a most important one and must be carefully watched by the boss wrangler or corral boss to see that there are no mistakes made, for broken bones are a bad advertisement.

A dude horse can't be just a quiet old plug, he must be spirited looking but gentle going. The dude ranch guests demand it and it takes a lot of tact on the part of the corral-boss and dude wrangler to keep everybody happy. It would be much easier for all concerned, in nine cases out of ten, if the choice of a mount were left to the corral boss. He is familiar with the horses and quickly sizes up the ability of a rider, and acts accordingly.

A case of this kind came up on a ranch where I was staying, when a very small boy—whom we will call Wee Willie Winkie—who was an enthusiastic rider, got bored with his honest, but slow, pony which had been chosen for him because of its size and gentleness. Willie was a chronic kicker, finally carrying his troubles to his mother who, being anxious to please Wee Willie, asked for a change of mount to the everlasting misery of the corral boss, as at the time there was no other suitable horse for Wee Willie to ride; and he, Wee Willie, thought he was being abused. Possibly he was, but upon more than one occasion I had lifted Wee Willie from the top of the stirrup where the leather thong of his small chaps had suspended him, as he tried to slide from the saddle in dismounting, and except for a lucky passer-by he might have been hanging there yet, as his feet were a foot off the ground. This sort of thing, as well as sliding off over the pony's tail, and such cute tricks,

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test the disposition of a dude horse to the limit, and one playful kick would probably have ended Wee Willie's career; hence, it is no easy matter to please everyone and still play safe.

One mistake that is often made is being over-confident, thinking that because one has ridden to hounds, or played some polo in the East, he can sit anything with a leg under each corner. This is a mistake, for even the experienced are up against a very different proposition. Saddles and bridles are different. The ways of riding and managing a horse are different. The country, conditions and customs are different, and, most important of all, the horse is different.

Take it easy, rider, when you hit the West. You don't know it all, but can easily learn a lot if you watch and listen, and what you already know will help you in the end. It isn't hard but takes time if you would "ride 'em as they come." So the dude wrangler, through his lieutenant, the corral boss, tries to ease the way by giving you a mount that you can handle and will be pleasant, for he wants you to have a good time—it means money and satisfaction to him. Of course, there is the exception, and if you get handed a skate, just "rair up on your hind-lais" and kick, and you will usually get another mount, unless there is a good reason why you should not. But don't try to ride a bronc the first day, or always be crying for a "live one," or some morning the corral boss will hand you a meek-looking, sad-eyed little pony that will let you get on and then hang you on a corral post or a convenient cottonwood tree. It probably won't hurt anything but your pride; *but*, oh those quiet smiles and the kind inquiries such as, "How did yer like yer hoss?" If they see you can ride and manage a good horse and know how to care for him, and not abuse him, you will get one. There are always green and doubtful horses that the corral boss is

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only too anxious to have worked, but first you must prove you can do it.

Again, there is the continual kicker who tires of his mount regularly, or because he won't develop into a Man O' War, when called upon. "Just must have another horse, I cawn't stand this one, that's all there is to it." They usually get a change—a thorough change. One such instance, the memory of which is always amusing to me, occurred in the case of a certain young lady, whom we will call Gwendoline. Gwendoline was a pretty consistent kicker and craved a change of mount ever so often. This time she had been riding a big, black gelding called King Cole, with a blazed face and flowing mane and tail, which although not fiery, was well suited to her ability, and a good, honest quad. She was a pretty good craver after the "new and strange" and her pleadings finally aroused the corral boss to action, and to the extent that he promised relief, and that on the morrow it would be forthcoming. He being a diplomat at heart and like all the rest of us delighted in the truth when the occasion warranted, and again like many of us lived up to his belief and told the "truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth" and, as the saying goes, "very little of that," had to make good or *crawfish*. But he was in a hole this time. He had to produce a different horse, as he had promised, but there were no extra horses that would fill the bill, so he set his brains to work, and nearly cleaned out the bunk house shooting crap; for he was some crapshooter when he was worried, or otherwise. The next morning when Gwendoline came for the new mount, he was smiling, fairly purring in fact, and going to the barn—the barn, mind you, not the corral—led forth, with modest pride, a sleek, black charger with hogged mane and banged tail, well trimmed fetlocks and ears, and a solid black face.

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"What's his name?" chirped Gwendoline.

"Wildfire," says he.

She was satisfied, and returned a few hours later radiant, declaring that Wildfire was the greatest horse she had ever ridden. Whereupon our good corral boss ducked, and I caught a big smile and a smothered chuckle. Somehow there was a strange familiarity about Wildfire and later on it came out that the miracle had been wrought with the aid of shears and clippers and a little shoe polish; and I still believe a bit of "ginger" and maybe a spike of moonshine, for King Cole was Wildfire and Wildfire was King Cole, one and the same horse.

This is just one incident in the life of a dude horse and what they have to go through to get by, and shows one of the problems that a dude wrangler has to face and still keep his temper.* But it is all in the business, and if he can't give service and keep his temper with a smile on his face, he should try something else for he is not fitted for that particular line. There is a great deal of psychology in the handling of dudes, and a dude wrangler must be tactful and diplomatic, and at the same time pleasant about it and make his guests feel that he is really looking after their interests, which he is honestly striving to do if he would be successful.

Another interesting point is the matter of confidence, and the fact that it, or its opposite, is generally communicated to the horse. This trait of sensitiveness is found to a marked degree in the western horse, for although they are less highly strung than the better bred eastern saddlers, still they have an uncanny instinct of knowing when they are carrying a poor rider or one without confidence and often will act accordingly.

An example of this sort came about in the case of a little old

* This incident was a rank exception and on the whole a bit of a joke.

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horse called Roaney, which was usually, on account of his quietness, allotted with no hesitation to the smaller children. This time an elderly lady wished to learn to ride and being small and light, Roaney was brought out. Being nervous, she showed it by her reluctance to being mounted; which, however, was finally accomplished, and she was shown how to sit and grip with her knees when necessary—for everyone rides cross saddle in the west—and how to hold her reins as well as other points that a beginner should know. Roaney stood it fine until she took the reins and then he started fidgeting and fretting, until finally it reached such a state that he actually *reared* or started to—a thing he had never done before. It was all off for the day as far as the rider was concerned, and she had to be lifted down.

I have seen this sensitiveness shown many times and whether it is due to lack of confidence in the rider, or a feeling of "Here's one I can put it over on" on the part of the horse, is hard to say

In this connection Rollins* states with much truth: "As a judge of equestrian ability, the Range pony was both quicker and better than any riding-master that ever lived. Put your foot in a stirrup, and in an instant you had been accurately appraised by the horse you were mounting."

Many horses in the West are ridden with hackamores,** that is, without any bit (see note), and thus their mouths become very tender and sensitive. Then when a bit is used, as it is sometimes through ignorance or necessity, and oftentimes by a rider with "poor hands," the result is not so good, for the

* *op. cit.*

** A hackamore is a headstall, usually of rope or braided rawhide, with a strong braided nose band (*bosal*), which fits fairly snug and to which the reins are attached. No bit is used. When made with long cheek pieces and *throttlers* on the nose band the hackamore can be very severe. A slight pull on the reins will shut off the animal's nostrils and prevent its breathing.

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horse will fight the bit and give no end of trouble, and at times may even rear and throw himself if the rider is not careful.

One afternoon, while riding, I met a young lad from the ranch who had not been in the West very long. He was riding a horse that was well known to me, and in fact became better known, a year later, when he fell on me and smashed a leg. The pony was sweating and fidgeting, although he had just covered about twelve miles of hard trail, and the lad told me he had almost spilled him down a bank on one or two occasions, which seemed funny as the pony was plumb gentle. However, when I looked at him closer I saw that he had a bit in his mouth and a *tight* curb strap, and the lad was riding him too much on the bit for he was a hackamore-horse, and although a bit was used sometimes, it was usually handled gently.

Some may get the idea from what has gone before that dude horses are an undesirable and somewhat chancy lot. This is not the case, for as a rule, they are gentleness itself; they have to be—it is part of the business—and every wise dude wrangler makes it his duty to see that it is so.

To get the right horse and learn to get along with it, the best thing for one to do is to put himself in the hands of the corral boss, and take his word for it. Take the horse he assigns to you and try him out well. Then if he is not what you want ask for another one. Tell the corral boss your troubles and give him time to help you. He is willing but his troubles are many and he appreciates consideration more than badgering—or even gold. Don't go over his head, except as a last resort, for his power in the corral is supreme and he is jealous of it. When you have a horse that suits you, take care of him so you may keep him. In any case, judge a western horse on what he can do and not on how he looks, as they are sometimes "plumb de-

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ceivin'." Don't bother the Big Boss or the foreman, but make the corral boss and the wranglers your friends, so that "your days may be happy ones;" for concerning dude horses—their dude horses—they are, as the saying goes, "in the know."



Paniers and Stove "set and ready"

Courtesy Valley Ranch, Wyoming

CHAPTER VIII

PACK PONIES

*Oh! It's packin', packin', packin',
From the dawn to set of sun,
And a luggin' of my burden—
Seems as if it weighed a ton—
For a cinch is always slippin'
And a gallin' of my hide
Then a doggon panier's rubbin',
Or the top pack starts to slide.*

—AUTHOR: *Packin'**

PACK horses are in a class by themselves and there are as many different temperaments amongst them as in any other kind of quad, and maybe more. To start with they are mostly renegades—that is, they are culled in many cases from every other type of horse because they don't fit the groove. If they are too knot-headed for a saddle horse, they are turned into the pack string. If they are too uncertain to make the dude outfit, they are relegated likewise. If they fall short of a good bucking horse, then to the pack string they go, and so it is. They are outcasts, with the exception of a few individuals which are wanted because they are steady and dependable and of more value as such.

Their job is not easy. They work hard all day and when it is over get no credit and less attention, for their work is taken for granted and so, according to modern standards, deserves no comment. The pack horse is a burden bearer, the plug of the outfit, and no matter how good he is, he is still in the same class. This may account a little for his "high-times" and excuse his periodical straying from the "straight-and-narrow." After

* *op. cit.*

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all, even a pack horse is entitled to a fling and whether he spills another fellow's beans in the process shouldn't really brand him as a rogue.

A pack horse's outfit consists of a pack saddle, a heavy saddle blanket or pad, a halter with short tie-rope and sometimes a bell. The bells, however, are as a rule silenced on the trail and strapped to the horse's neck to get them out of the way until the time comes to unpack and turn the animal loose.

The usual type of pack saddle is the double-rigged, cross-tree saddle, with cinches front and rear, and with breastplate and breeching. Under it is placed a thick pad, as the padding of the saddle itself is very light—usually only a sheepskin covering. To this saddle frame the paniers are lashed. Paniers are of two general types. The box panier is a flat, narrow box made of wood and usually covered with green rawhide (with the hair on), or canvas. The bag panier is a flat, oblong bag of canvas or leather with a long flap. The box panier is preferred in a great many cases as it keeps its shape better and one can pack dishes and the like in them without bending or breaking.

To the forward cross of the saddle are attached two ropes, or rather one rope hitched in the middle, so that an end of about twenty-five or thirty feet long extends down each side. These "sling-ropes" are used to fasten the paniers, one of which is slung on each side of the saddle tree, snug up under the cross and held in place by what is generally known as "the basket hitch." This is done by passing one sling rope across the bottom of the panier and around the rear cross of the pack saddle from the outside, so that the end falls between the saddle and the paniers; then bringing this loose end up under the bottom of the panier and tying it down snugly to the first segment. This holds the panier up against the cross of the tree. The free



Balancing the top pack

Photo Author



Packs all set

Photo Author

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ends of the rope are then hitched together from both sides over the top and drawn snug. For convenience the sling loop is usually formed first by a turn of the rope around the rear cross and the panier lifted into the loop thus formed and pulled up snug. When this is done, the top pack is put on and pulled down tight by a hitch rope with the world-famed diamond hitch, or a similar lashing. When the hitch is thrown right and tight, then as the old packer says: "Let the critter pitch and buck"—for it is practically impossible to loosen the load.

The top pack in hunting and camping outfits is mostly composed of tents, tepees, duffle bags or beds,* which latter are folded into an oblong and placed crosswise on top of the paniers, and a canvas cover, or tarp, thrown over all before the hitch is put on. It is best to saddle the animal a short time before packing and to draw up both cinches medium tight. This allows the pack saddle and pad to get *set*, and then as each horse is led up to be packed the cinches are pulled up *tight*. This keeps the saddles from working loose as the horses warm up, and is most important. Usually when starting out on a trip each saddle is fitted and marked with the name of a horse for which it is meant, and when camp is reached the saddles are stacked under a tree and covered over with a tarp. In this way the horse gets the same saddle throughout the trip and many sore backs and cinch galls are thus prevented. In every outfit at least one camp stove, or Dutch oven, is carried and it is usually packed lengthwise between the paniers, being about a foot

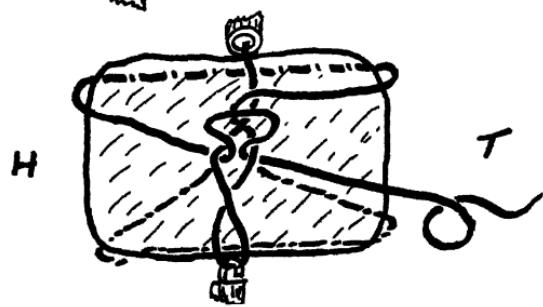
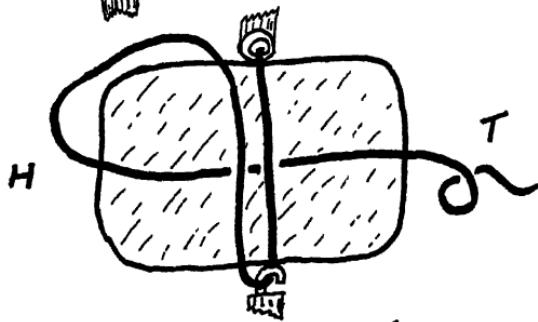
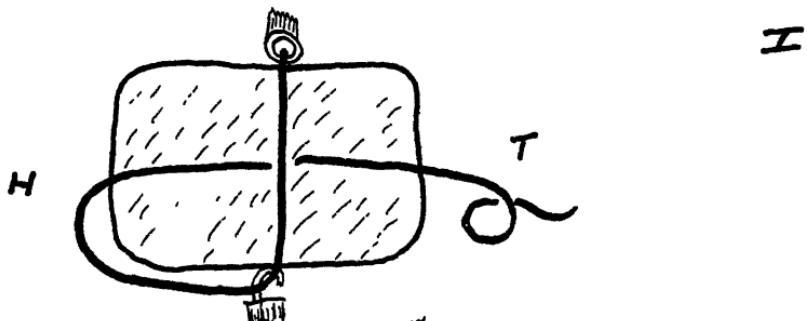
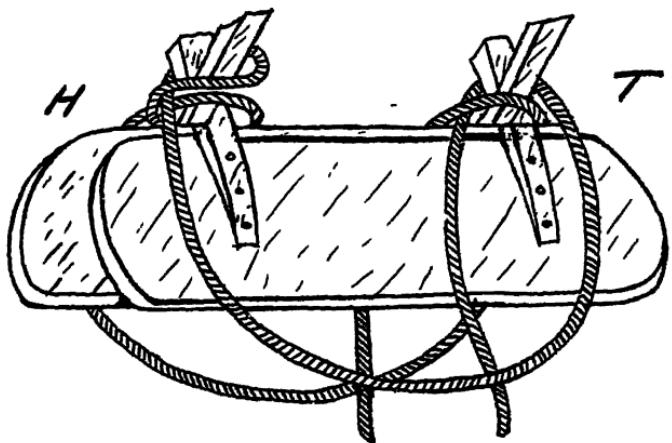
* A cowboy bed is mostly made up of a number of sougans or comforters and one or two wool blankets. These are folded up lengthwise and wrapped in a canvas sheet or tarp which folds over the bundle like an envelope and goes over and under the bed when spread. The cowboy also carries most of his belongings and necessities, including extra clothes, tucked in between the sougans and blankets. This is his trunk.

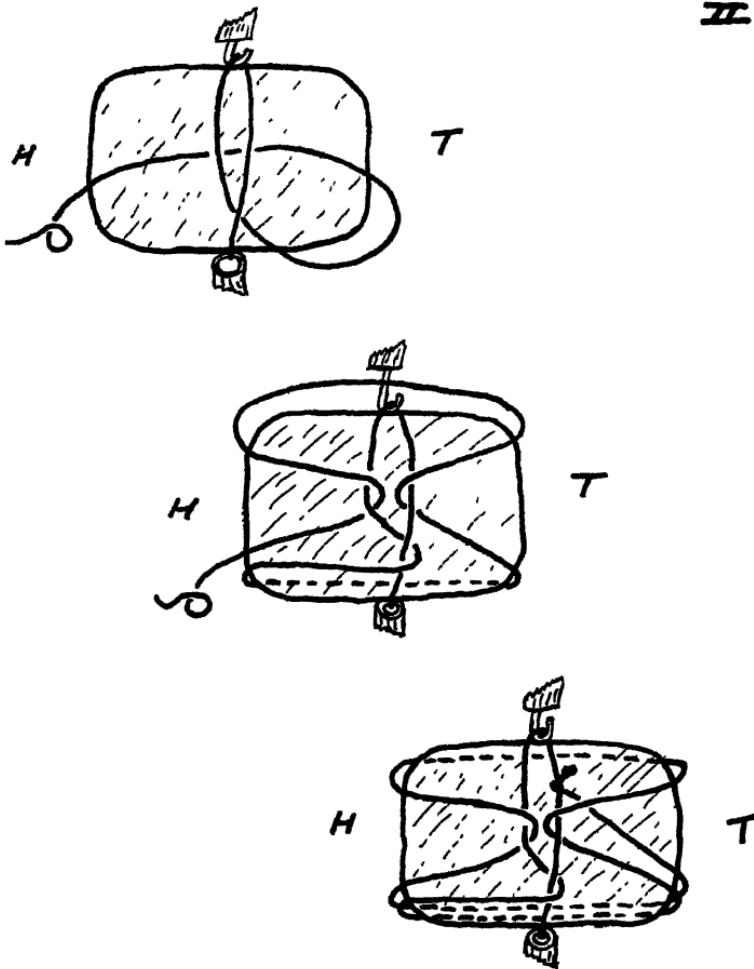
DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

square and a couple of feet long. A gentle horse that is well known is usually picked to carry the stove to avoid the chance of damage to this useful article.

The "diamond-hitch," which takes its name from the diamond formed by the hitch rope on the top of the pack when the hitch is completed and drawn down tight, is the finishing touch to a well packed horse. It must be thrown "*right and tight*" to be of much use, and a packer can usually be classified by the way he does it. No matter if the saddle is set and cinched correctly and the paniers balanced to a hair, and the top pack folded and balanced to perfection, if the diamond hitch is bungled or the slack not all warped out, this work goes for nothing. There is more than one way of throwing the hitch, although the result is the same or should be when completed, but as every packer will tell you, there is only one way, and that is *his way*.

To throw a "single diamond hitch"—for there is a double one too—first take the hitch rope, which is usually a piece of three-quarter inch hemp, about fifty feet long, to the end of which is fastened a cinch with a big flat hook attached. Having uncoiled it by throwing the coils to the rear, grab it about ten feet from the cinch end and lay it lengthwise of the pack on the top center line, letting both ends fall loose on the near side. Then pick up the hook end and throw it over the pack, first warning your helper on the other side (if there is one) by calling "coming over." He then takes the hook and passes it back under the animal seeing that the cinch sets flat and even, and with the hook facing rear. Now fasten the hook into the loop that is hanging loose, and after passing *this* rope over the pack, call to your partner to "take it away," and he then takes up the slack. So far you have two strands passing over the top of the





THE DIAMOND HITCH

Cut 1 represents rough drawing of Diamond Hitch first described in text. The breaks in rope lines are to show where rope passes under or over. (H—head of horse, and T—tail.) (A represents standing loop referred to in text, this loop is pulled out and looped around corners of pack (near side) as indicated by dotted line.)

Cut 2 represents the second type of Diamond Hitch described. Both cuts represent the main stages only. The warping out of slack in the rope at all stages is of vital importance.

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pack with another lying beneath them at right angles. Now with your assistant keeping a slight pull on the rope, twist the two top strands once or twice and pull up a short loop of the underlying strand between them which you let stand up six or eight inches. Now your partner takes the rope he is holding and passes it under the rear corner of the pack on his side (off side) and then straight to the front and up again under the front corner and diagonally across the top, being careful to keep a strain on the rope all the time. Here you come in again and take the rope away from him. Then holding it under tension so that the work so far doesn't slip and get slack in it, grab the upstanding loop with your free hand and pull up on the side of the loop which corresponds to the rope you are already holding, until all the slack is out. Now, still holding your rope tight, pass it under the front corner of the pack on your side (near side) and straight back, still under tension to the rear corner and holding it there tightly, grasp the heretofore neglected free end of the rope and pull away until all slack is out. As you pull on this rope, you will see the diamond open up on top of the pack where the ropes cross. That is, if you have taken all the slack out as you went along and made no mistake. Now to finish off—tie down the loose end in a half bow, binding the loop with one or two half hitches which will keep it solid and make it easy to loosen when unpacking. Then tuck-in the loose end so that it won't catch on a limb or stump or be stepped on, and you are ready to go. This is one way of throwing it; of course, there are others.

Some packers prefer to throw this hitch practically in reverse. That is, they throw the loose coil of rope ahead instead

N. B. One man can throw a diamond hitch alone but two are better when possible as it saves much walking and work and it is easier to take out the slack.

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of to the rear (of horse), and pass the cinch hook under the belly instead of over the pack. This places the cinch hook on the off-side of the horse, and necessitates a helper (two-man hitch). The hanging loop (near-side), is then thrown over, after having been passed under the near corners of the pack, and hooked up with the cinch by the helper. The slack is then taken up by the packer. The strand of rope that now lies lengthwise, between the two cross strands, is pulled up between them, forming a loop (after they are twisted, to form a bite), and thrown to the off-side man, who quickly loops it under his side of the pack (both corners). The slack and loose-end is then taken-up by the near side packer, and he, after passing the loose-end under the forward (near) corner of the pack, passes it back to the rear corner, and thence to the top, where he ties it down (after having taken out all slack). This method of throwing a *two-man* Diamond is without doubt faster than the other method described.

Throwing a diamond hitch can't be learned from a book; it has to be actually done and watched in order to learn it, and a would-be packer will probably throw it many times before getting it right. There are other hitches used for tying down packs of the sort mentioned, amongst which are the Lone Jack, Government and the double-diamond hitches, but the single diamond, if thrown right, will usually cover all requirements.

There are some things that should be remembered in packing as most important for the good of packer and animals alike:

Pack saddles and pads, cinches, breastplates and breeching should be adjusted to each horse.

Cinches should be drawn tight before packing, but don't "cut-the-animal-in-two."

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

Paniers should be *balanced* in weight and in position, and securely slung.

Top pack should be balanced and not too far forward or back. This can be done by adjusting the top pack and then gently rocking it, changing its position until it is exactly balanced on the animal's back.

The diamond hitch should be carefully thrown, all slack taken out and pulled *tight*, and rope end knotted securely.

Packs should not be top heavy.

The stove must not rub the animal's neck or rump.

The shoes of all animals should be in good shape before starting, and an extra or two, some nails and a hammer carried with the outfit. Also grease for cinch and saddle galls.

Packing differs as to ways of packing, the country, conditions and contents of the packs. In the old days before the railroads and automobiles, all merchandise had to be transported across the country by wagon or pack train and packing became a business in certain sections, particularly in the mountain country of the West. A good idea of how this was done in the early days of the Santa Fé trade is told by Colonel Inman* where he speaks of the big mule trains used at that time:

"A description of the equipment of a mule train and the method of packing, together with some of the curious facts connected with its movements may not be uninteresting, particularly as the whole thing with rare exceptions, in the regular army at remote frontier posts, has been relegated to the past along with the caravan of the prairie and the overland coach. To this generation, barring a few officers who have served

* Col. Henry Inman—*The Great Salt Lake Trail*—Published by The Macmillan Co., New York City.

(Note: Packing was done by mules until about the year 1824.)

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against the Indians on the plains and in the mountains, a packed mule-train would be as great a curiosity as a hairy mammoth. In the following particulars, I have taken as a model the genuine Mexican pack train or *atajo*, as it was called in their Spanish dialect, always used in the early days of the Santa Fe trade. The Americans made many modifications but the basis was purely Mexican in its origin. A packed mule was termed a *mula de carga* and his equipment consisted of several parts; first the saddle or *aparejo*, a nearly square pad of leather stuffed with hay which covered the animal's back on both sides equally. The best idea of its shape will be formed by opening a book in the middle and placing it saddle fashion on the back of a chair. Each half then forms a flap of the contrivance. Before the *aparejo* was adjusted to the mule, a *salea* or raw sheepskin made soft by rubbing was put on the animal's back to prevent chafing and over it the saddle cloth or *xerga*. On top of both was placed the *aparejo* which was cinched by a wide grass-bandage. This band was drawn as tightly as possible to such an extent that the poor brute grunted and groaned under the apparently painful operation, and when fastened he seemed to be cut in two. This always appeared to be the very acme of cruelty to the uninitiated, but it is the secret of successful packing; the firmer the saddle the more comfortable the mule can travel with less risk of being chaffed and bruised. The *aparejo* is furnished with a huge *crupper* and this appendage is really the most cruel of all for it is almost sure to lacerate the tail. Hardly a Mexican mule in the old days of the trade could be found which did not bear the scar of this rude supplement to the immense saddle.

"The load which is termed a *carga* was generally three hundred pounds. Two *arrieros* or packers placed the goods on the



Freighting out of Death Valley (near Lone Pine)

Photo Karl Obert

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mule's back—one, the *cargador*, standing on the near side, his assistant on the other. The *carga* is then hoisted on top of the saddle, if it is a single package, or if there are two of equal size and weight, one on each side, coupled by a rope which balances them on the animal. Another stout rope is then thrown over all, drawn as tightly as possible under the belly and laced round the packs securing them firmly in their place. Over the load to protect it from the rain is thrown a square piece of matting called a *petate*. Sometimes when a mule is a little refractory, he is blindfolded by a thin piece of leather, generally embroidered, termed the *tapojos* and he remains perfectly quiet while the process of packing is going on. When the load is securely fastened in its place the blinder is removed. The man on the near side, with his knee against the mule for a purchase, as soon as the rope is hauled taut, cries out '*Adios*,' and his assistant answers '*Vaya!*' Then the first says again '*Anda!*' upon which the mule trots off to its companions, all of which feed around until the animals of the whole train are packed. It seldom requires more than five minutes for two men to complete the packing of the animal and in that time is included the fastening of the *aparejo*. It is surprising to note the degree of skill exercised by an experienced packer and his apparently abnormal strength in handling the immense bundles that are sometimes transported. By the aid of his knees, used as a fulcrum, he lifts the package and tosses it on the mule's back without any apparent effort, the dead weight of which he could not move from the ground.

"An old time *atajo*, or caravan of packed mules, generally number from fifty to two hundred and traveled a *jornado* or day's march of about twelve to fifteen miles. . . .

"Five dollars a month was the amount paid to the muleteers,

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but it was oftener five with rations, costing almost nothing, of corn and beans*. . . . Each herd has a *mularo*, or bellmare, which wears a bell hanging to a strap around her neck and is kept in view of the other animals who will never leave her."

Mules are good pack animals and in many ways better than horses, being tougher and more sure-footed; also their hoofs being smaller they can travel rocky trails easier with less chance of being lamed. Mules are queer and not generally like horses in disposition or ways, and have to be understood to get the best out of them.

The requirements of a pack horse are few and simple; he must be sound and strong and broken only enough to lead and to allow himself to be packed without too much trouble, and then not try too hard to unship his load. Of course there are good and bad pack horses—a good one is a joy in the hills and a bad one a curse. A good one will stay near camp, not try to wander off, and allow himself to be driven in and caught up easily; then stand quietly until packed and when ready will move off and fall in line plodding along until stopped. A bad one is just plain mean. One may not like being caught up and saddled, but once this is accomplished will submit meekly to being packed and give no further trouble. Another may allow himself to be saddled and the paniers slung, and then "spill the beans" entirely, trying to get rid of it all, which he usually does before he is through. It is funny to see a half-packed horse "break-in-two" and scatter food and dishes "from hell-to-breakfast," but usually the packer can't see the joke.

I remember one time when two questionable horses were being packed at the same time, only a few paces apart, which was a bad mistake to start with. They had both reached about the

* Meat, if used at all, was found by the *arrieros* themselves.

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same stage of packing, with the paniers just slung up, when one of them started bucking. This started the other, probably out of sympathy, and a wish to add to the fun, and hell broke loose. Things began to happen, for to make it as bad as possible, both horses were packed with supplies. They pitched "high, wide and handsome," and seemed to be trying to see which could unload his grub the quickest and still cover the most territory. They bucked, twisted, pitched and snorted; and all the time the ground was steadily being covered with flour, spaghetti, jam, coffee, tin plates, potatoes and such duffle. The climax came when two big boxes of matches exploded and hit the air in quick succession like well-timed sky rockets. The wreck was complete and most of it had to be swept up.

Another pack pony I became acquainted with was Roach, a sour-looking roan, whose chief stunt was to allow himself to be packed and then just flip over backwards, in which position he would usually lie for some time as the pack kept him from getting up; and we did not help him for a while, hoping it would cure him. Roach never got anything but a bed-pack. Many are the trials and miseries of a packer and he usually heaves a sigh of relief when he clears the home ranch and is headed for the hills. For, once on the trail, the kinks soon get snapped out of the mean ones and a good day's trail work will go far towards settling them down to their job.

As a train of pack horses gets under way they will string out one behind the other with an old-timer usually in the lead, who will follow the trail if there is one. If not, the guide of the outfit will take the lead (and usually does under ordinary circumstances) and the string will follow, kept in line and on the move by the wrangler. A pack train may be made up of from one to thirty or more horses, most of which will be packed.

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In strings of any size it is better to break it up and let someone of the outfit ride at intervals in the string, and with a rider always in the rear, so as to keep them all on the move; for one lazy horse on a narrow trail can hold up a dozen willing ones. Thus the train plods along hour after hour, stopping for rest or to breathe, as the occasion and character of the country warrants. At noon there is a halt for lunch when the pack horses and saddle stock are allowed to graze, if possible, and watered if no opportunity has presented itself previously. After a short rest the train is again rounded up and set in motion and the journey continues until camp is reached or evening approaches. They are then stopped and unpacked at a spot not too near the kitchen or bedground and a few are belled and the bunch turned out and driven off by the wrangler to a likely feeding ground.

There are usually two reasons for selecting a bell horse (generally a mare); one is because it is well liked by the other horses and they will feed and keep near it; another, because it is an inveterate strayer or because it is a stranger to the country. A mare is usually popular in a bunch of geldings who will stay near her and so be easy to locate by the wrangler in the morning. An incident of this kind happened in the case of a pack pony called Snowball, whose color was luckily like his name, for he was a rogue. The first night out on the trip of which I am thinking, he held the party up a half day locating him; the wrangler finally having to call in the whole outfit to help as they needed the horse. He was finally located about two miles from camp at the foot of a big slide where he had evidently gone to hide. The same pony a day or two afterwards kept the wrangler busy for some hours trying to locate him after the rest of the string had been rounded up. It was on the

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Yellowstone meadows and the country was open with patches of thick timber which jutted out into it. After a long search Snowball was located hiding behind a tree and standing still so that his bell wouldn't rattle. He seemed peeved when he was driven out to the bunch, but gave no more trouble during the trip. The wrangler had probably passed him a dozen times in his search, but the old fox just kept quiet. Horses, as a rule, will feed in bunches or pairs and not usually stray off alone. They seem to like company as well as human beings do and a lone horse is a most unhappy animal. He even prefers the company of human beings to none at all.

I remember a little bay pack pony a pal of mine and I took on a hunt some years ago into the Greybull country of Wyoming. We had to leave him alone all day in a sort of fenced-in pocket as we didn't want to put him on a rope. I guess he got pretty lonesome, maybe thinking we had deserted him. That evening as we neared camp, we heard the little fellow whinny, and he sure sounded worried. As we got close to camp we spied him up on a high rock looking around trying to locate his friends, and when he saw us he trotted down to the bars as pleased as a kid with a new red wagon. It was funny to see the relief and pleasure that horse showed at sight of us.

Another incident of horse-feelings was shown in the case of a cowboy I knew who was riding through the hills alone and had to put up for the night at an old cabin on the Thorofare, some miles from the home ranch. Being afraid his horse would take off for the ranch, and not wanting to picket him, he let him feed and then put him in an old corral near the cabin. That night his horse got lonesome and whinnied so much that he finally got up and, as he said, "Just took my bed and slept in the darned corral." I guess he was a bit lonesome himself and misery loves company.

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Horses get homesick just like people, and it is not unusual for them to travel many hundreds of miles to get to their home range where they were raised. Hough* exemplified this when he said, "A horse never likes to leave its native range and if stolen and taken away would often come back, sometimes over a distance of more than two hundred miles. A band of thirty-five horses has been known to break away from the drive and return home over two hundred miles in about twenty days. Much was left to this home instinct of the horses, and it was considered sure that they would range over a country not much more than twenty-five or forty miles from where they were born, if the feed remained good. Fences were therefore not needed, for fifty miles on the range is but a little way."

In this connection I knew of two mules which were taken into the hills each fall to pack supplies for the winter's trapping. Upon arrival at the camp they were unpacked, and with empty saddles on their backs, were headed towards the home ranch, some thirty miles, where they were invariably received and unsaddled and found by their owners the following spring.

This trait has to be watched when packing as it is no joke to be left in the hills afoot, and there are a few precautions that a good trail boss will always take, if he is wise. In the first place it is always wise to shove your horses away from home when turning them out; that is, so that the camp is between them and the back trail, for it is not uncommon for horses to back-track during the night if given a chance, especially the first night out. If they have to pass close to, or through, the camp they are usually heard and turned back. This is where the bells come in. Horses will usually not back-track after the

* *op. cit.*

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first or second night out, but this is not always so. I know of one case where an entire string of pack and saddle horses left a good pasture at the end of a trip and started for home more than one hundred miles distant, leaving everybody on foot. As the outfit had been putting up at a ranch, no horses had been picketed, and the wranglers had to borrow horses and chase the runaways for half a day before being able to get ahead and turn them.

Sometimes a straying horse is hobbled; that is, his front feet connected by a short strap, or rope, so that he can only take little steps. Again, a piece of light chain (clog) is fastened to one of his front feet, so if he gets off a walk the loose end will strike his legs. Usually he will not try to get away, but I have seen a clogged horse at a "high-trot". The surest way to keep a horse at home is to picket him by tying a long piece of rope to a heavy strap buckled around the fetlock of one of his front feet, and fasten the other end to a stake driven into the ground in such a way that the rope will slide around the stake and not twist up. This naturally limits his grazing to the area of the circle, the radius of which is the rope, so a good grazing spot should be chosen and the pin shifted occasionally. It is not a good practice to picket a young horse, or a wild one, unless he has gotten used to it by degrees, as he is apt to hurt himself before he realizes that he is tied.

Another good precaution is to see that the rope, strap, and stake are strong so that you won't find your horse gone in the morning.

When the wrangler has thrown out his horses, he comes back to camp and picks his own horse in a grassy spot where he can pick him up at daylight, when he must gather the string again. In big strings a night herder, or wrangler ("night-

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hawk"), is sometimes used. Horses will usually feed quietly during the night and not scatter much, but as soon as daylight comes they are apt to wander. This is especially so if there are flies, when they will try to get away from them in thick brush, making it hard to find them. A good wrangler starts out as soon as it is light and after rounding up and checking his horses drives them into a rope corral (if no other is handy) near the saddles where they stay until ready to be packed and get started. A rope corral is made by stretching throw-ropes, or hitch-ropes, breast high between trees or the like, and will hold most pack horses. An interesting and true explanation of this trait is given by Rollins, when he said, "A pony once thrown, never thereafter outgrew the recollection of the lariat's spilling power. This doubtless explains why 'gentled' horses, however mean, could surely be corralled by an enclosure made of a single rope held withers high."*

With the wrangler's horse picketed, and he back in camp, the next sound is usually cookie's: "Come and get it, before I step in it," and there is no second call necessary. From then on there is no sound but the mulligan—and there's nothing better to a tired rider. Arthur Chapman** knew the meaning of mulligan when he wrote:

He had a stew jest ready and he dished a plateful
out,
And I set and et that plateful and I heard far angels
shout;
I could hear gold harps a-twangin' and my rough
thoughts seemed to melt
As he dished another plateful and I loosened up my
belt.
(The Magic Mulligan)

* Philip Ashton Rollins—*The Cowboy*—published by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York City.

** *op. cit.*

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With mulligan tucked away and the dishes washed, and cookie and the wrangler finished swapping lies, all hands spread out the old bed-rolls and one by one sneak under the tarps with the big blue-black star-spangled blanket of the sky as an extra covering, and all the world as a house wall, you just shut your eyes, breathe in the cool fresh pine-scented air and forget your troubles, for you are in camp now, up in the hills; and what can be better or more important!

The camp grows quiet and finally the only sound is the restless stomp of the picket horse or the distant clank of a bell, or maybe just the far off wail of a lone coyote. Peace reigns supreme; the packer's day is done.

Give us a camp in the thicket,
Far from the traveled ways;
Give us a horse to picket
While the great star sentries blaze.
—CHAPMAN. *The Indian Police**

* op. cit

CHAPTER IX

BRONCS AND BUCKERS

When my leg swings 'cross on an outlaw hawse
And my spurs clinch into his hide,
He can r'ar and pitch over hill and ditch,
But wherever he goes I'll ride.
Let 'im spin and flop like a crazy top
Or flit like a wind-whipped smoke,
But he'll know the feel of my rowelled heel
Till he's happy to own he's broke.

—CLARKE: *The Outlaw**

A BRONC, or bronco, and a bucking horse are not the same and really should travel under a different classification; although, strictly speaking, since a bronc is an unbroken horse, then any horse that bucks might be considered as still not thoroughly broken, and hence eligible to the bronc class. To be specific, the former is an unbroken horse or one in the process of breaking; while the latter is one (whether broken or not) that is used for bucking alone, whether he bucks because he wants to, or because he is made to.

The term "bucking bronco" is a common one and used mostly by people who are not familiar with western ways—who like the sound of the name thinking it means a western pony. Still they are not to blame, because this term has been used so much in connection with the circus and Wild West show that it has been universally accepted as referring to western horses. All broncos, however, do not pitch, even in the process of training, although there are probably few that do not attempt some kind of rough stuff sooner or later; either with

* Badger Clark—*Sun and Saddle Leather*—Chapman and Grimes, Boston, Mass.



A Nice Ride—an' likin' it

Photo Foste

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good provocation or because of loss of patience, or from fright. This tendency depends both upon the temperament of the horse and the way he is handled. If he is gentle-broken, that is, handled a lot and his training done in easy stages, there is less provocation to unload his rider than if he is roughly handled and scared into trying to get rid of him.

Bucking is an inherent trait with most horses and even cattle, for how often have we all seen a little colt or a calf frisk off for some reason and pull as nice a string of bucks as one could ask for? This is, of course, only an expression of well being; an outlet for high spirits; but, nevertheless, it is in miniature the same nasty buck as their elders indulge in. Naturally the motive for bucking is to get rid of the rider and as this desire decreases, either from removal of the cause or from becoming used to the burden, so does the tendency to buck decrease. Again, some horses are more apt to buck than others and can buck harder either through disposition, conformation or strength. One of the wildest horses and hardest to break I ever saw turned out to be a very indifferent bucker and soon lost the desire altogether. This horse appeared to be "plum-cultus" (as bad as they come), and during the period of halter breaking repeatedly threw himself and was so wild and unmanageable that he was considered a bad risk and not worth the time and trouble to break. Sometime later, at a show on the ranch, he was one of the horses to be ridden in the bucking contest. However, nobody seemed anxious to ride him until finally one of the boys who used to ride for the "Bill Show" (Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show) volunteered to "take a settin'" on him bare-back; that is, without saddle but with a circingle, or bull rig.*

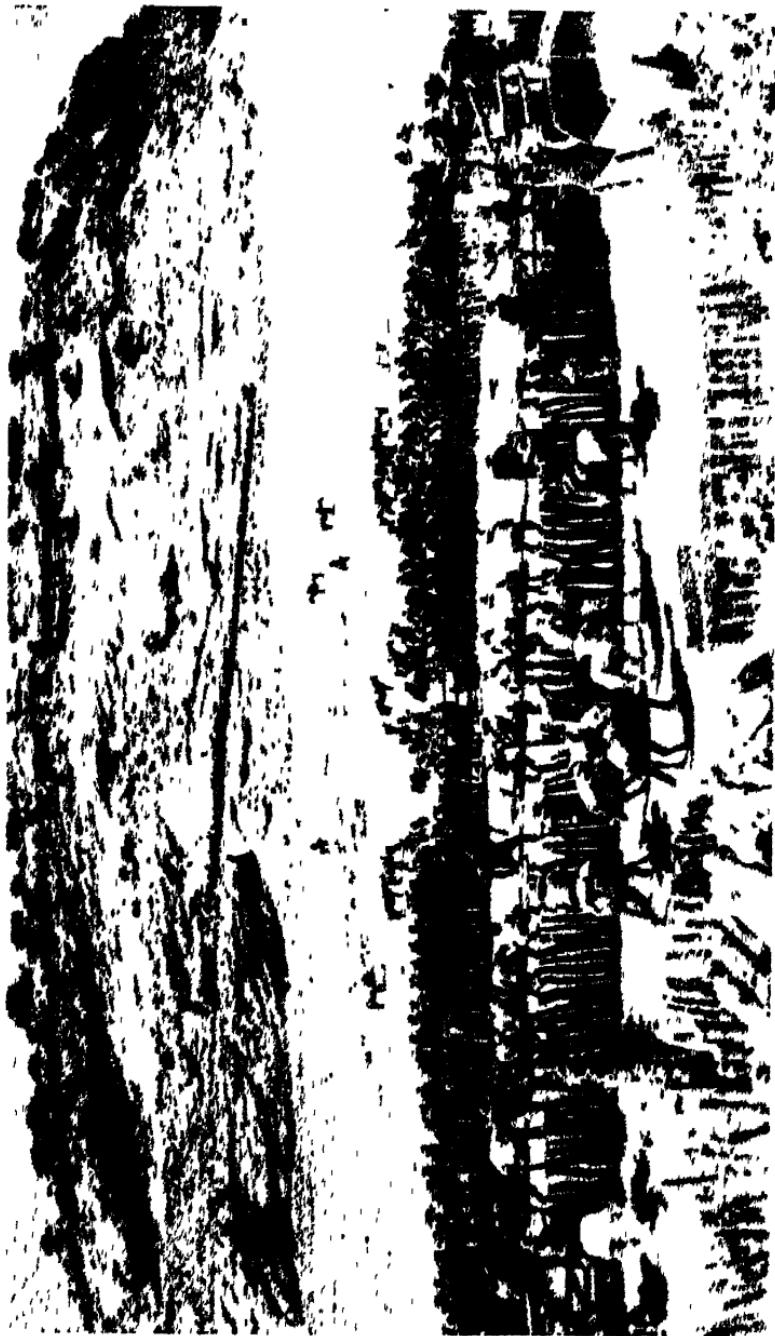
* Bull rig—a broad leather band usually lined with sheepskin and with two strong leather loops or grips. It is cinched down tight in place of a saddle and the rider, straddling the horse, grips the handles tightly with his hands be-

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which is a bit easier and not so apt to injure the rider in case of a fall, as he could slide off easily if the horse got too crazy, or pulled a back-flip. Everybody expected a show, but the "wolf" (wild one) couldn't "throw a wet saddle blanket" and after a few half-hearted attempts gave up.

As for the bronc, there are two general ways of breaking him to the saddle—the gentle and the busting method. In the case of the gentle-broken bronc, he is made to become accustomed to the feel of the saddle and the bit by degrees, as well as their meaning, and thus gradually loses his fear of them as well as of being handled. Thus, when the time comes to mount, if it is done properly and not too hurriedly, it is ten to one that he will move off, after learning the go-ahead signals, without attempting to buck. Then if taken gently and patiently until he is experienced, he may never buck at all, even when startled or unnecessarily hooked or prodded. Many a good horse is spoiled in the making, because the rider loses his temper, and tries to hurry things too much. They have got to be made to understand first and then if they won't do it, *make 'em*. The gentle-broken horse is best and this method of breaking is of course preferable where time and circumstances make it possible. Still there are a great many horses that could never be broken in this manner. They are mean or headstrong and have to be taught from the very beginning to *respect a man*, and that the punishment for disobedience is hard. In other words, the *devil has got to be hooked out of them* else they will catch a rider in a bad spot sometime and break-in-two, to his discomfort and possible injury.

tween his legs, thus by pulling up and leaning back a very firm hold can be had and the rider kept at the point of least disturbance just back of the horse's withers. Also used for steers, but not in contests, a thick soft rope being substituted.



A Riding Contest in the Indian Country

Courtesy Columbia Pictures Corp

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Some horses that are classed as "broke" horses are of this kind; they will bog their heads and pitch at the most unexpected times and places and often after a period of perfect behavior. A horse with which I became acquainted and which went under the name of H-7 because of his brand, was of this type and while he wasn't vicious or mean and was pretty well behaved after his first uncorking, still once in a while for some reason known only to himself he would start pitching, and, while a nuisance, a good rider could sit him easily. This horse could usually be made to buck by hooking him, and was therefore often used for this purpose which doubtless spoiled him as a dependable saddle horse, which was unfortunate as he was a grand type.

Another pony of this kind, called Wampus, which showed like tendencies, actually had his rider hung up on a narrow trail, through no fault of his own, as the rider slipped as he was dismounting and his foot caught. On this occasion, although standing practically over him, he allowed a cowboy to walk up and free the foot and then let his rider rise without making a move. Such horses may be termed merely spooky and so when startled they blow up the same as a human being. These horses do not really belong in the bronc class and should not be confused with them.

Unfortunately, due to lack of time and conditions, the *busting* method of breaking horses is used mostly, as I have already stated, and while of course a few gentle horses may be spoiled and subjected to unnecessary rough treatment, on the whole, taking into consideration the number of horses that often have to be broken in a comparatively short time, it is excusable and the only practical method. One must take into account the fact that there is little, if any, chance of getting acquainted with

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range horses before they are broken, and so to be on the safe side it is wise to assume that they are all bad until they prove otherwise. In riding a bronc for the first time it is safer to take every precaution, and they can't be babied. Of course, there is no sense in throwing a bronc or snubbing him up to another horse if he will allow himself to be saddled and mounted without a fight. On the other hand, if he shows fight, the easiest and shortest way is to snub him up and, if necessary, blindfold him or twist-his-ear. Then when the rider is up, turn him loose and let him do his darndest. If he bucks and fights, the only thing to do is to hook and quirt it out of him until he is tired of it, or satisfied that he can't throw his rider. In other words, he has *got* to be subdued, and after a few lessons he learns manners, and then it is merely a matter of riding him until he is educated. Present day ranches, and especially dude ranches, are gentle-breaking their horses where possible as they must be reliable and, in the case of the latter, gentle at all times. The introduction of thoroughbred strains doubtless is decreasing the tendency to buck, without undue provocation, and proper handling and selection reduce it to a minimum.

If the bronc is a wildcat and fights too much, the only thing to do is to frontfoot and throw him; then hog-tie and saddle him while still down and put on the bridle or hackamore. The rider then straddles him and the rope being loosened and flipped off, he slips into the saddle as the bronc rises and is all set. Another way of saddling and mounting a bad one is by the use of the pen or chute, which method is used as a rule in contest riding. In some cases a horse is made to stand by tying up a front foot which keeps him from jumping about.

In the case of the bronc which will stand, it is a matter of taking it gently and going slow and making no quick motions;

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first getting the bridle or hackamore on and then easing on the saddle blanket, sometimes rubbing it on his neck and withers a few times to get him used to the feel of it, (keep your eye on him until ready to go); then lifting the saddle gently onto his back and not letting the cinch or stirrup hit him by placing them over the seat of the saddle. Every movement should be *slow and easy*. Oftentimes he will buck the saddle off a few times before he stands for it. It is a good thing to put the saddle as high up on the withers as possible in the case of a bucking horse, as there is less motion at that point than elsewhere, when bucking. The farther back you sit the more leverage the horse has to throw you.

The next step is getting the cinch, and it has to be fished out gently. The rider has to have a care here that he doesn't get pawed or struck at, and to be on the safe side should do his fishing with a piece of stick or a loop of the latigo. With the cinch in hand and the latigo through the ring, you have practically got him "in-your-sack". After pulling the cinch up tight it is well to sometimes let him stand a few minutes and get used to it and maybe rock the saddle a few times; then grasping the reins with the left hand (the near one close to the bit), or in some cases also the cheek piece of the bridle to keep him from pulling his head around quickly, the left foot is placed quietly in the stirrup (on the ball of the foot only), and some weight put on it. If he stands, then about the only thing to do is to swing on up fast and easy and get set but *don't hook him*. Let him be. Then after a minute or so start him off slowly, and gently and the quirt is better than the spur at first. You may have a party on your hands and you may not, but you usually have one sooner or later and the sooner the better so you can see what he has got.

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So much for the bronc, gentle or rough; they are all different, and the ways of riding and training are different, they range from the gentle-broken barnyard horse to the broncs on the round-up where they "ride 'em as they come". Here, if a cowboy wanted a fresh mount, he would rope one and, if necessary, throw him and saddle him, ride him and work him, and when he was done get another and so it went.

There are several distinct types of buckers which may be classified, such as the crow-hopper, which gives only a few small stiff-legged hops and then quits. Probably the next easiest to stick is the running or plunging buck, where the horse covers considerable ground and thus the direct jar is less. Then there is that back-breaking jolt caused by the horse jumping almost straight up and landing stiff-legged on all four feet. Then the sun fisher or fence corner buck, where the horse bucks hard and twists from side to side off the straight line trying to jolt its rider loose and get him off balance at the same time. Then there is a horse that will rear and plunge forward and land stiff-legged and then maybe kick sky-high behind. They are plenty tough when they are mean and it is a wonder that a rider stays with 'em at all, or doesn't get his neck snapped just sittin'. There are also other names for types of bucking, such as circle, skyscrape, high-roll, high-dive, side-throw, fall-back, side-wind, cake-walk, weave, straight-buck, the double-O-, cork-screw, twist, shimmy, and cinch-binder.

Possibly the worst of the buckers is the rearer which throws himself backward, but worse than him and the most to be feared is the cinch-binder and he deserves a word in passing. In the case of the rearer, it is more or less expected and the rider can see it coming and step off before the horse reaches the ground, but he has got to move pretty pronto. The cinch-

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binder, on the other hand, just squats on his haunches and flips over on his back all in one move and plenty fast.

I knew of a horse called Roach, of which I spoke in the chapter on Packing. This horse would flip over every time with a pack but never with a rider. Probably it was because he wasn't cinched so tight. Buckers are funny animals and it always pays to be on the lookout for tricks. An interesting incident of this kind happened to a cowboy in Wyoming. Slatts, as we called him, had just gotten the buck out of a horse called Indian Tom, which was a hard horse to mount—plunging, rearing and striking, and hard to get near. Once mounted, however, his performance would be short but pretty good at that. After topping him off, Slatts who was feeling a bit salty over it, continued to hook him, and gleefully singing, let him plunge about the corral in a series of running bucks, enjoying himself plenty. In back of the cutting corral was a block and tackle, and a meat rack, used when slaughtering beef. The meat rack was composed of a two inch plank, withers high from the ground, and spiked to two six inch posts about ten feet apart. This plank had a string of big spikes running along it, about a foot apart, and sticking out some four inches, on which to hang the fresh cut beef. Slatts and the Tom Horse in their wild journey passed this rack and then, turning, came back towards it again. But just as they got opposite, the Tom Horse swerved and ducked under the plank; there was a loud crack and a riderless horse, and we all looked to see bits of Slatts hung up on the rack; but somehow the God of the cowboys was watching, and when we got to him Slatts was just coming to and asking for a cigarette. He didn't even have a rib broken and to this day it is hard to understand how he cracked that two inch plank and missed all those spikes without even a scratch. He told me afterward

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that he saw it coming just in time to rise up in his stirrups and was on top of the cantle when the horn struck.

As there are different ways of bucking, or different types of bucking horses, likewise there are different styles of riding or sitting a bucker. This point, as one can easily see, is elastic and is determined more or less by the personal ideas of the rider as to style of saddle, length of stirrups and whether he uses a hackamore or a bit. All bucking horse riding can be classified as either grip or balance riding. In the case of *grip-riding*, the rider maintains his position principally by strength of grip with naturally a little balance thrown in, while in the case of the *balance-rider*, the balance comes first. But again a certain amount of grip is likewise necessary, and no rider can stay on top of a bucker without using both. There isn't much to bucking horse riding after style of saddle, dimensions and fit have been determined by the rider, except to ride, as it all follows one general line. A rider must get his saddle cinched down tight and as high up on the withers as possible, and then get into it as best he can by one of the methods before mentioned, and then it is up to him. To some riders the use of the stirrups is an aid; others can ride easier by screwing down under the swell and throwing the stirrups away. This, however, is not allowed in contest riding. Here the tree and saddle rigging are specified, so that no rider has an unfair advantage due to his equipment. (*Rodeo Association of America*.) Some hook-back, some forward, some not at all. Some ride with feet swinging free; some claw the cinch to help hold themselves in place, while some are forced to pull leather. Of course in exhibition or contest riding, there are certain rules or regulations with regard to all these matters which the rider must abide by or be disqualified. However, in ordinary riding where one's object

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is to stay with the horse and not just put up a show ride, anything goes; and it is far better to pull leather than to take a fall. There are occasions when you take the fall anyhow, but that is another matter.

In speaking of styles of riding buckers, one of the prettiest rides I ever saw was at The Farm in Los Angeles, of which I have already spoken in connection with the goat-roping contest. In this case one of the boys who had won many laurels in contests the previous summer, volunteered to ride a bucking horse which was considered pretty "salty". After roping the horse, blindfolding and snubbing him, the rider was given a leg-up and then they turned him loose, and that horse sure did put up a pretty show. The boy rode him *straight-up* for a few jumps, scratching him flank and shoulder; then he leaned forward and threw his feet up on the skirts of the saddle so that his spurs were behind the cantle and, with his right hand held high in perfect balance and leaning slightly forward, rode the horse for ten or fifteen jumps farther. It was the prettiest ride imaginable and a fine test of balance and control. The fact that the horse was a straightaway bucker, although a strong one, in this case, of course, made this type of ride possible.

The main thing in keeping one's seat on a bucker is to keep a grip on the flip, or upthrow, and balance helps this a lot. A thing that helps a rider to keep down in the saddle and his knees under the swell, is the pull of the reins or bucking rein.* Without this, the average rider would have to pull leather or get piled in the majority of cases. Once loosened in the saddle, you are usually gone, but with a good grip on the bucking rein a rider can often steady himself as well as pull himself back,

* Usually a single strand of heavy, soft braided cotton rope attached to a hackamore, or halter.

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close to leather, if his grip has been loosened by an extra hard jolt. It is a wonderful sight to see a good rider sit a really mean horse who can buck and whose main ambition is to pile him by fair means or foul; and sometimes it's a wonder they ever stay together. I have seen a horse buck and pitch, twist and turn, and finally rear up and fall over backwards—his rider with him all the way, stepping off before his mount hit the ground and in the saddle again before he was up. Such riding is impossible except to the cowboy and is made possible for him only through lifelong practice.

Some years ago during a talk on bucking horses with Slim Smith, who in the good old days had been one of Buffalo Bill's crack show riders, I asked him how it was that show horses always bucked when called upon, and why they didn't go stale sometimes and sulk. His answer was that the horses being in good shape and trained to buck when mounted knew what was expected of them and were usually more than willing to comply. However, once in a while, just to give them a fresh start the riders would take them out on a soft spot and let themselves be bucked off just so the pony wouldn't get discouraged. It would put an edge on them.

There are different methods of making a pony buck, such as pricking him with a burr, or a loose belly-strap in which there are tacks, but the usual way is by using the bucking-strap. This strap is put around the horse's belly and pulled tight and usually does the trick; if not, the rider can jerk at it until he gets what he is looking for, which usually is plenty. Most big shows use the bucking strap nowadays so as to make the horses sure-fire buckers, although many of them are naturals and need no coaxing. It is bad for business to see a supposedly mean horse run out of the chute and not perform. The

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customers want action and they must have it. Of course there are plenty of good, natural or trained buckers, but the best horses are saved for the big contests and can't be ridden every day as the show horses are.

All cowboys are not necessarily bronc riders but must be *good* riders. Some, on account of natural proficiency, make a specialty of it in which case they are termed bronc-fighters, buccaroos, bronc-peelers or bronc-stompers, flash-riders or some such name, but on the whole they are ace high when it comes to riding and most of them can "take 'em as they come", and put up a pretty good show under any and all conditions.

Of course in the old days in the cow country where things were much more primitive than at present, the methods of breaking and training were necessarily briefer and rougher. Many cowboys or bronc-busters in the old days made a living by going from ranch to ranch and contracting to "break out" a string of broncs at so much a head (usually five dollars). In such cases their methods were short and rough. They couldn't afford to waste time on any one horse and they literally broke them and rode them all in one motion. In thus taking them as they came, many rough and really bad horses were encountered and the experiences of bronc riders were rough, to say the least. To quote from Hough* on this subject: "Sometimes their lungs were torn loose by the violent jolting of the stiff-legged bounds of the wild beasts they rode, and many busters would spit blood after a few months at their calling." Only young men could stand the strain of such work, and that for not too long a period, and a real bronc-stomper's life was filled with thrills, and was seldom long.

* *op. cit.*

CHAPTER X

CONTEST RIDING

Then the Rodeo came on it's yearly round,
With it's thrills and it's frolics in Western style,
And many a ride was made in practice,
And many a gay buckaroo was piled.
And they gathered the steers from the country 'round,
And the outlaw horses from everywhere,
And the pick of the riders out of the West
Came drifting in, 'till they all were there.

—AUTHOR: *The Sunlight Kid**

CONTEST riding as it is done nowadays is a specialty, and practiced mostly by crack riders who may or may not be top-hands or even hands at all. Hands they don't necessarily have to be to ride in contests, but crack riders they *must be* to start with if they ever expect to get in the money. There are many good cowboys that are good at their job but who are only fair at riding a bucking horse. This is no reflection on them, for riding buckers is as much a knack as any other specialty; although natural aptitude, strength and practice are necessary.

Contest riding originally sprang from the games and competitions which were held in the old days at the end of a round-up of cattle or horses. Here several outfits would be gathered to cut out and brand their stock, and sometimes get paid off. So it was natural that before all those good hands and riders separated and drifted back to their own ranges, or to town for a spree, they should try and see who was the best man doing the things that were part of their business. And so contests were staged in riding, roping and like feats, on the result of

* *op. cit.*



The Throw—and it looks like a "hoolihan"

Photo Keystone View Co.

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which, in many cases, plenty of hard earned wages changed hands. It was only reasonable that these shows should grow as time went on and should be commercialized to a great extent. However, the name round-up stuck to most of them, coming from the old time contests held on the prairies.

As time went on, many features were added to the shows; such as bulldogging, steer-riding and all kinds of roping, practical and fancy. Some of the stunts were purely competitive and big purses were hung-up for the winners. Others were just fillers to make the show more colorful and complete. First one section of the country would start a show, and then another, and many of these became annual events, and still are. Probably the best known and largest of the round-ups, or rodeos, as they are more often called on the west coast, are The Round-up at Pendleton, Oregon, Frontier Days at Cheyenne, Wyoming; and The Rodeo held for the last few years at the Madison Square Garden, New York City. (See Appendix for list of Rodeos.)

These shows are scheduled to be held upon running dates throughout the summer months, and many riders and contestants follow the circuit just as the race horses go from track to track.

The championships are usually held near the end of the season, when the good riders and ropers congregate to fight it out for the championship of the world at riding, roping and for all-round cowboy. A few years ago a beautiful bronze trophy was put up by the Hotel Roosevelt of New York City, in memory of the late Theodore Roosevelt and his love for cowboy sports. This trophy was called the Hotel Roosevelt Trophy, and was for the Champion Cowboy of the World. To win the trophy a contestant had to win high points for

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three years at the Pendleton Round-up and Cheyenne Frontier Days, and had to compete in two or more of the following events to be eligible. Points were scored as shown:

	<i>1st</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>
Bucking Horse Riding	120	90	60
Steer Roping	120	90	60
Trick Riding	100	75	50
Bulldogging	80	60	40
Trick Roping	80	60	40

The wins on this trophy were as follows:

- 1923 Yakima Canutt.
- 1924 Paddy Ryan.
- 1925 Bob Crosby.
- 1926 Paddy Ryan.
- 1927 Bob Crosby.
- 1928 Bob Crosby.

Having won it three times, Bob Crosby became the owner of the trophy which probably signifies the highest honor to be won by a cowboy in competition.*

Of all the exhibition stunts probably the saddle bucking-horse riding contest is the most important. The purses hung up for this title are usually worth winning, and the natural desire of a rider or cowboy is to win this event above all others. To have a chance, he must be a top rider and in first class condition, and practice. This applies to most all the events, and is why many top contest hands go to warmer climates such as California and the Southwest in the winter to keep in condition for summer shows.

The entries in the saddle bucking-horse contest at Pendle-

* The data given on the above mentioned trophy was received from the Hotel Roosevelt, and is noted as received.

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ton Round-up have numbered as many as two hundred, with sixteen riders with the highest rating being chosen for the semi-finals. Of these there were four chosen for the finals, three to ride and one reserve, according to the draw.

Most saddle bucking contests are run in the same general way. The bucking horses are put in a corral at the end of the exhibition field and "hazed" into chutes as they are needed. Where there are no chutes, the horses are roped and blindfolded and thrown, if necessary, and a saddle and hackamore put on. The rider in this case often straddles his horse while he is still down and comes up with him. If the horse is not too bad he is just snubbed up to a quiet pony and blindfolded. He is then saddled and mounted, while held, and turned loose at the signal from the judges with his rider aboard.

Mostly, however, especially in the important shows other than Pendleton, the *chute* is used in order to save time. The chute is a narrow slat pen with a gate in the front and in the back. The horse is hazed into the pen from the small holding corral leading out of the main corral and the hackamore, with bucking rein attached, is put on. The saddle is then dropped on his back from above by a cowboy standing on the bars of the chute. The cinching down of the saddle is also done from outside through the bars, as some horses would kill a man if they could reach him. The rider always inspects the job of saddling to see that the saddle is put on right and the cinch drawn down as tight as it can be and properly fastened. Not only his ride but his life may depend upon this fact. A rider may saddle his own horse, but undue cruelty of over-tight cinching is barred.

When the rider is ready, the judges give the signal and he drops down into the saddle and gets set. Then the gate is

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opened, and the bucker needs no urging to "hit the daylight" and usually starts in doing his stuff at the first jump.

The rules in most contests call for the rider to leave the chute with both feet in the stirrups and both "hooks" against the horse's shoulder. He must scratch his mount in the shoulder for the first five jumps, and then high behind. Also he must ride slick or straight up, that is, with his right hand high and swinging free and his left hand holding the bucking rein only. The rules don't allow him to hobble his stirrups, nor to lock his spurs; and some contest rules require that the spurs be taped so as to save the horse from being cut-up. A rider must keep on making his ride until the judges' whistle or gun calls it a day. At the whistle, the pick-up men who have been keeping along with him in case of accident, close in fast and grab the bucking rein, snubbing up the bucker's head to their saddle horn. The rider then throws his arm over the pick-up man's shoulder and slides over to *his* horse, or over and off the side furthest from the bucker. This all takes skill, nerve and practice, as well as strength and agility and doesn't come from sitting around. A great deal depends upon the way the horse bucks as to whether the rider has a chance to win.

The riders in a contest draw numbers for the order of their ride and likewise the horses are numbered. Usually the night before the contest the horses' numbers are put in a hat and drawn out. The first horse drawn is given to No. 1 rider; the second to No. 2, and so on. A good rider may draw a poor horse and thus not stand a show to win first money no matter how well he rides, for like everything else the spectacular has the edge, other things being equal. Of course a rider has to conform to the rules and show class in any case, but a good show-horse often puts him over.

Photo Foster



Just right—and one hand swingin'

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Good contest horses are much prized and bring good money for this purpose. Strings of such horses are usually collected and rented out to the shows—and the show managers won't stand for any plugs. The success of the show and satisfaction of the riders depend a great deal upon the horses and so they are carefully picked over before they are put into exhibition.

Talking of bucking horses and riders, Lloyd Coleman (world's champion saddle bucking-horse rider, 1920; world's champion bareback rider, 1921) once said: "A bucking horse is like a good rider; he has to be big and strong, nervy and active, and have confidence enough in himself to think he can throw his rider. . . . It takes plenty of nerve along with practice and a natural gift to *be* a good rider and I have seen old cowboys that have ridden all their lives that can't ride a bucking horse. . . . A good rider will never get on a bucking horse with the intention of getting thrown. . . . Contest riding is a business with me and I always figure what I am going to do to make the ride look good to the judges and spectators and to outwit the horse—to make it look a pretty and graceful ride—and make it look as if you were doing it with ease and felt at home on a bucking horse."

Possibly the next most exciting and spectacular feature of a rodeo is the bulldogging or steer wrestling. Here a steer is turned out of a corral and hazed along in as straight a line as possible by a mounted rider. His partner, who is to do the bulldogging, rides along on the opposite side of the steer (usually the nearside), until he gets in a position to make a try for the steer's horns. This is done by leaning over and slipping from his galloping pony onto the steer's neck, and grabbing the horns, sometimes just making a high dive. He then twists the steer's head until the animal is forced to topple over and its

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head is pinned to the ground. The contestant then raises his hand in the air and his time from start to throw is snapped. Some riders used to just make a dive at the steer's neck and in some cases try to "hoolihan" and throw him clean at top speed by tripping him up. This was later ruled out as dangerous, many contestants getting badly hurt by the steer falling on them; and it did not show a true "wrestle-down".

To bulldog a steer, a contestant has to be strong and fit and have plenty of nerve; it is no child's play to jump from a pony's back to a running steer at full gallop and then wrestle with a six hundred pound critter who has four feet to your two.

Steer roping also comes in for a lot of interest, and here the old hand has a chance to do his stuff. The steer has to be roped, thrown and hog-tied against time, from a standing start and a good horse is as necessary as a good roper. Skill and a good rope-horse are of more importance in this event than bull strength. However, a contest hand has to be in good shape at all times to get in the money. Some women contest riders can rope and tie a steer almost as well as a man, and to have seen little Mable Strickland, who weighed only about one hundred pounds, do this trick in fast time must have been an education. The rope-horse here plays a big part for he must follow his steer like a polo pony does the ball, and when the loop settles he must *jump into a set* to take the shock, and then keep a strain on the rope until the steer is tied up. The jolt of a six hundred to eight hundred pound steer snubbed up on a high lope is considerable and the strain on horse and saddle is heavy. A pony not knowing his business can easily be jerked off his feet and injure, or even kill his rider. However, from long practice both horse and rider learn to throw their weight against the shock at just the right time which makes the feat possible,



Trick riding—and how

Photo Keystone View Co.

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the most danger being if the horse jumps into a set on a slick spot.

Calf roping is much like steer roping, but easier, as the calf is smaller and not so heavy. Still calves are plenty snaky, and the Brahma cross which is being bred into contest steers is helping this trait a lot.

In the riding contests, the horse bareback championship comes next to the saddle championship. Bareback riding is done without saddle, bridle or hackamore. The rider usually holds on to two stout handles fastened to a heavy leather circingle—called a bull rig—cinched tight to the horse just behind the withers. By pulling hard on the handles and squeezing with the thighs and knees, the rider tries to keep himself near the center of balance and pivoting point of his mount, which is just behind the withers. The rules call for hooking flank and shoulder just as in the saddle riding, but here both hands can grip the circingle. However, the rider who can do it with the most grace and ease, and maybe let go one hand, usually comes out ahead.

Steers are also ridden in this way, but usually with a piece of plain rope, and generally there is no purse, as it is more in the line of exhibition at so much a ride. However, a steer is plenty salty (the Brahma cross helps that), and is a hard critter to sit and worse than most horses. The toughest animal to ride in this line was probably old Sharkey who gained fame in the Pendleton Round-up. Sharkey was an Angus bull and probably weighed over a thousand pounds. He used to be saddle ridden and the rider who could stay with him was good. His weight and the terrible jar of his short bucks did the business.

In most rodeos there are many horse races, including the mile, and half mile, the cowboy, and the Indian races, and such.

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The cowboy-race generally required the rider to wear a full equipment, including chaps and rope and all the trimmings, and it always gives the stands a big thrill because of the good-natured rivalry.

The relay race is another exciting feature and is usually run with a string of four horses to each contestant. Good relay riders would take their strings from one rodeo to another and become expert at the flying-mount and dismount. Each horse of a relay team was as a rule ridden one-half mile, the rider being required to change his own saddle from one horse to another at the end of each lap. The extra horses were held (bridled) by a helper; but he was allowed to do nothing else. As a rider neared his relief mount, he would swing up close to him and pulling his horse to a sliding stop, vault from his saddle and loose the cinch almost in one motion. Then slapping the saddle on the fresh horse and jerking up the cinch, he would vault into the saddle with the horse already moving, making a flying mount similar to the old Pony Express days, from which the idea of the relay race really started. Speed in changing saddles counted for a lot and after a few years a special relay saddle and rig was designed. This saddle was very light in weight and flat at the cantle, and low at the swell and horn. The cinch was made of rubber with a hook on the near side and an adjusting buckle on the off side. A number of rings, one above the other, were also attached to the near side, standing rigging. The rider, when dismounting, would unhook the cinch with a jerk from one of these rings to which it had been hung and throwing his saddle on a fresh horse, jerk the hook up to the highest ring on which it would catch and hold. The stretch of the rubber cinch kept all tight and the saddle in place. This saved a lot of time otherwise taken up with latigoes or buckles,

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and often meant the winning of a race. One of the troubles of a relay rider was to make his extra horses stand while he saddled them. Naturally, in the excitement, they would sometimes get "spooky", even in the hands of a good second, and this often-times lost him the race.

Trick-ropeing and rope-spinning is also a part of every rodeo and often judged and prizes given. However, usually it is a matter of exhibition, for good fancy ropers are not so plentiful.

A cowboy clown always adds a lot of fun to the show and keeps the ball rolling when the action slows up. The funny-men are usually good riders and rope hands, but may be in some cases not good enough to get in the money, or being naturally funny they make some extra pay by clowning.

The rodeo, round-up, stampede, or whatever name it may be called, not only furnishes competition nowadays for a lot of top riders and ropers whose old business is on the slope, but helps to keep alive that part of the Old West. It gives many people a chance to see the cowboy at work; maybe not just as he used to, but it shows what he has to be able to do and the sort of ability his job demanded. Robert Wellington Furlong perpetuated the rodeo and the contest rider for all time when he wrote his book, *Let 'Er Buck*,* picturing The Round-up at Pendleton, Oregon—probably the greatest exhibition of its kind. He draws a true and vivid picture which shows riding contests, and the contest rider, at their best. His is one more piece of historic literature which serves as a record of western life, and the excellence of the western rider.

To be a good contest hand, a rider has to be brought up in a riding country where the things he has to learn are practiced all the time, and horses, ropes and riding are a part of the air he

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breathes. And besides these things he must have supreme confidence and nerve.

Contest-horses are also specialties, whether they are buckers, rope-horses, hazing-ponies, part of a relay string, or trick riding mounts.

They all have a special job to do and some of them many. They are as necessary to the show as the riders, and in fact more so, for without them there would be no reason for the contests, or possibility of the stock business which gave them birth.

The contest horse, big or little, should be considered as a highly trained specialist, and one who is doing his job just as honestly as the old-time range pony. Maybe he isn't helping to send beef to the markets, but he is helping to keep alive the memories of that red-blooded spirit that made America supreme. He deserves a hand whenever he shows, for he is doing his stuff always with no idea of reward.



CHAPTER XI

COWBOY CLOTHES AND EQUIPMENT

It is big and wide and roomy and it's solid, every bit,
And there's fifty pounds of substance in the makin' up
of it!

It isn't nothin' fancy, 'cuz it ain't made fer display,
It is just the cowman's workshop where he spends a
busy day.

—BRININSTOOL: *The Cowman's Saddle**

COWBOY clothes are probably one of the most interesting and striking things an easterner sees when visiting the West for the first time, and certainly what they are looking for. Cowboys without their ten-gallon hats, chaps and high-heeled boots, would look just like ordinary folks and lose much of their atmosphere. But few people, I think, give a thought to the reason for this special rigging or of what use it all is except to look picturesque.

Every article of clothes and equipment that a cowboy wears is for a purpose, and was originally adopted for reasons of efficiency. Many adjuncts have lost their true meaning, due to lack of necessity, and in many cases have degenerated into just fancy gewgaws; but behind it all there was a reason just as the tan (pink) leather tops of the English hunting boot is now practically only an ornament, where originally it extended above the knee to protect it from brush and injury.

The cowboy's saddle was planned and built for service, and although it changed somewhat as time went on, the idea is still the same. The stock saddle was "the cowboys' workbench,"

* E. A. Brininstool—*Trail Dust of a Maverick*—Dodd, Mead & Co. Reprinted by special permission of the author.

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The double rig is the rig of the old time stockman and made it possible to cinch the saddle down solid to withstand the terrific shocks of roping. When "just ridin'," the rear cinch was often loosened to ease the pressure on the horse, and the forward cinch was also often slacked away some. However, when going into action both cinches were drawn tight and well tied.

Dude saddles, as they are sometimes called, are flatter and with a low swell and cantle. This was necessary on account of the many types and sizes of people who used these saddles, and they were easier to get in and out of for inexperienced riders, and safer in the long run.

A cowboy saddle is built on a tree made of wood over which is laced green rawhide which, being put on wet, shrinks when drying and binds the whole thing tight and strong. On the tree is built the saddle; that is, the leather and rigging are fastened to it. This is done mostly by tying in place the different sections of the leather which go to make up the saddle covering, the leather being held in place by paste while the saddle is being served, with leather or rawhide thongs (strings). As few nails and screws are used as possible, as they are apt to rust or work loose in time. Practically all the fastenings are made by sewing, lacing or tying down with thongs or saddle strings, as they are called. These strings are passed through punched holes and are then tied down on a leather rosette or metal concha, to keep the piece in place. Most saddles are called eight string or eight button saddles from the number of strings necessary in their construction. Some saddles are six string or six button, due to some of the sections of leather covering being in one piece instead of two (the seat and front jockey).

The tree of a saddle is its backbone and foundation, and a poor tree makes a good saddle impossible. In general, a saddle



FIGURE 1

This shows a round skirted *Bronc* saddle, with a high swell and cantle. This is a six-button (or six-string) saddle, with the seat and front jockey in one piece. Saddle is built with $\frac{1}{2}$ Rig, with stirrup leather passing through cinch ring (see Fig. 3), and fender attached between stirrup leather (usually double thickness). Ox-Bow stirrups and twisted wool cinch are shown.



FIGURE 2

Shows silver mounted saddle with lower cantle and swell, more after the working type.

This is an eight-button saddle, with back and front jockeys separate from the seat, and with a single Spanish rig, with stirrup leathers outside the ring. Metal stirrups of the Ox-Bow type are shown, and the fender is all one piece with the top stirrup leather. The stamping is referred to usually as hand raised flaver stamped.

The component parts of the saddle are named as follows:

1. Seat.
2. Cantle binding.
3. Back cantle.
4. Horn.
5. Back jockey.
6. Skirt (square here—may be round).
7. Swell (the covering is sometimes called the hood).
8. Gullet.
9. Front Jockey.
10. Fender.
11. Stirrup (metal here).
12. Latigo (hand carved leather here).
13. Cinch ring, for single Spanish rig.
14. Latigo catcher.
15. Concho and tie (or saddle) string.

Courtesy Abercrombie & Fitch Co.



FIGURE 3

Shows same saddle as Figure 1 with stirrup hooked over the horn as when cinching. The cinch ring shown here is the *Easy Rig*, with stirrup leather passing through ring. The *Easy Rig* is the only one where this occurs. The latigo is shown here as passing through both rings but not drawn up or tied. The stirrup leathers are also only partly laced up. Adjustment of length of stirrup is made in this way.



FIGURE 4

Shows rawhide covered saddle tree as it comes to the saddle maker to be covered and rigged. The tree is of light strong wood, covered with green rawhide which is laced on while wet, and thus shrinks when drying, which pulls the tree together and strengthens it. When dry it is varnished with a special preparation to keep out moisture. The type of tree shown here is the *Association* tree required in bucking contests.

Courtesy of Hamley & Co.,
Pendleton, Ore.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

is built up from the tree by first screwing on a metal "strainer" or brace plate to help strengthen the tree and keep the seat from breaking down. Then the front rig is fastened to the tree. This includes the cincha rings and stirrup leathers. Next the groundwork of the seat is put in, and the front, seat, back cantle, and skirts are blocked out, or rough cut. Then the horn is covered, sometimes with sewn leather and sometimes with braided rawhide. Next the front (hood), seat, and back cantle are last fitted, and the cantle binding sewn on. The leather is worked wet so that it conforms to the tree, and when it dries it shrinks and becomes smooth and tight. Next the back rigging is put on behind the cantle, if a full rigged saddle, and the skirts crimped in. This leaves the back and front jockeys to be tied on, and the string leathers to be put in and tied down.

To the stirrup strap is usually fastened a broad piece of leather extending towards the rear called a "fender" or "rosidero". This keeps the rider's legs from rubbing against the horse's sides and acts as a protection from sweat and dirt.

The skirts which are fastened to the under side of the tree are generally covered with sheepskin, wool side out, as a pad for the horse's back, but a saddle blanket is always used under it to prevent chafing. This blanket is of heavy wool and usually folded twice so as to make a thick pad. The saddle blanket can be used to cover the saddle when off the horse and as an extra protection to the rider at night.

To the cincha-rigging is fastened the cincha or cinch usually by a short latigo or buckle on the off side, for adjustment, and a long latigo on the near side for pulling it up. The cinch is a broad band of woven wool, cotton or horsehair (sixteen to

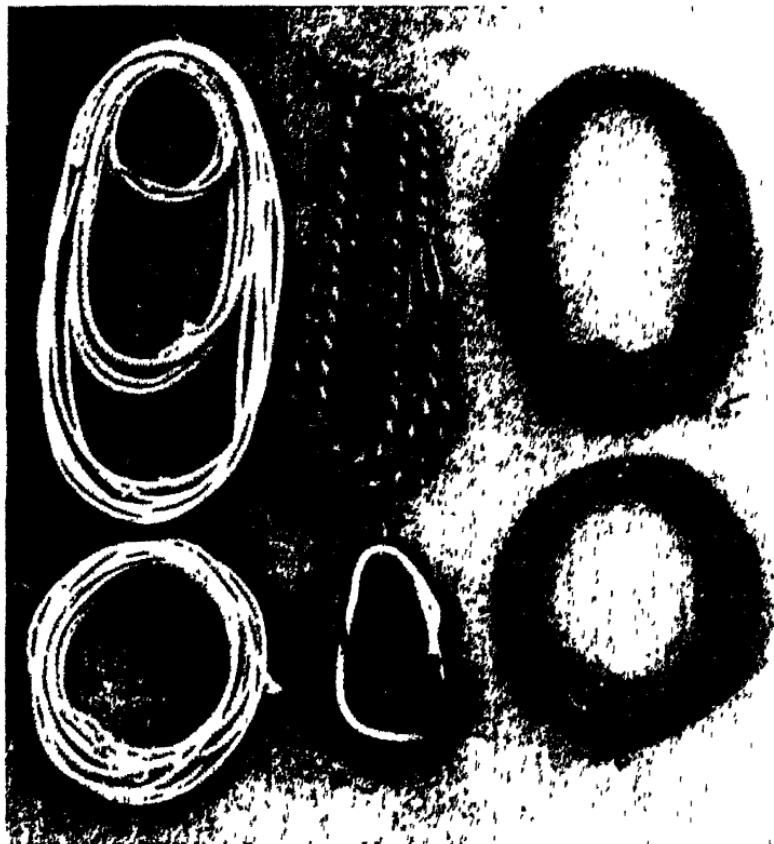
Note: (Information relative to the building of a Western saddle, through courtesy of Connely Bros., Billings, Mont.)

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eighteen twisted strands—mohair on good saddles) with a ring in each end. The off ring is fastened to the off rigging strap, or short latigo, and the near ring is used to thread the long latigo through (latigo made of soft, tanned leather) which is already fastened to the near standing rigging ring. The latigo is passed through both rings several times, and then pulled tight and tied down with a simple hitch and the end tucked in. This rigging gives great leverage, acting like a block and tackle, and the cinch can be pulled as tight as a rider wants, and stays there. Some cinchas were made of pieces of hard twisted (fish) cord, and some with strings of rawhide or bull gut (old days). These strings were knotted to the cinch rings and then kept in place by three bars twisted in laterally. This type of cinch was strong and severe, for on account of its construction it allowed the horse's hide to come through between the strings. This helped to keep the cinch from slipping but was apt to cause cinch galls and so be hard on the horse, and so seldom used.

Stirrups are usually of the open type made of bent wood. The box type of stirrup isn't seen much in open country. Often the stirrups are made of metal and are sometimes just iron rings. The leather coverings called *tapaderos*, or taps, are used more in Mexico and the Southwest where the brush is thick and thornes, mesquite, chapparal and cactus plentiful (also in winter).

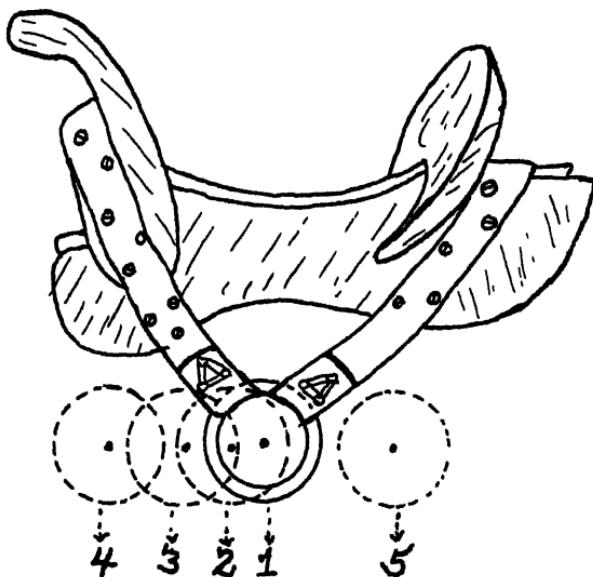
Saddle bags are often used to carry the rider's personal cuffle, and a slicker is tied in back of the cantle by the saddle strings. When a rider is traveling light without a pack horse, he could roll a blanket, small skillet, tin cup and some food in his slicker. Other supplies could be swung in a sack from the strings at the back of the cantle, or from the swell. But mostly every-



1. *Nest of spinning ropes*
(12, 16 and 32 ft. Spot Cord.)
2. *Maguey catch rope* (50 ft.)
3. and 4. *Mexican hair tie ropes* (16 and 19 ft.)
5. *Braided rawhide reata* (50 ft.)
6. *Twisted hemp throw rope* (35 ft. $\frac{1}{2}$ in.)
Note types of Hondas.

Photo Author

-SADDLE -RIGGING -



There are two general types of saddle rigging, viz., *single* riggings and *double* riggings. The single rigs require but one cincha ring (on each side) while the double rigs require two.

The *single rigs* are the *Spanish*, the $\frac{1}{2}$, the $\frac{3}{4}$, and the *Center Fire*.

The *Double Rigs* are the *regular*, and the $\frac{1}{2}$ *double*.

The position of the cincha rings as indicated on the chart are as follows:

No. 1. Center Fire.

No. 2. The $\frac{1}{2}$.

No. 3. The $\frac{3}{4}$.

No. 4. The Spanish.

No. 5. Rear rigging ring for double rigs.

The double rigs are swung from the following rings:

Regular Double—from 4 and 5.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ Double—from 3 and 5.

(In the $\frac{1}{2}$ *single and double* rigs the stirrup leather usually passes through the forward ring, which is generally larger than the regular cincha ring.)

Note: There is also a $\frac{3}{4}$ rig, the ring for which lies between the $\frac{1}{2}$ and the Spanish, i.e., 3 and 4.

Appreciation for data to Hamley & Co., Pendleton, Oregon.

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thing is tied on back of the cantle where it was out of the way and rode well.

The throw rope is usually hung on the off side of the swell coiled small (unless it is to be used) and fastened there by a strap, or the saddle strings. Throw ropes are of many kinds but mostly three-eighths or seven-sixteenth inch three strand twisted hemp of the best quality to be had, as a great deal often depends on the rope holding under terrific tension and shock. These ropes usually run from thirty-five to forty feet long with a *honda* or loop in one end, through which the rope can run easily. The *honda* is often protected from wear by a piece of rawhide laced around it while wet. This would shrink when drying and become tight and very hard.

The throw rope is in error often called a lasso. The correct name in the north country is lariat, and in the South *reata* which latter, however, refers more to the braided rawhide ropes used by the Mexicans and Spaniards of the southland. These ropes are longer than the hemp ropes, used farther north, and about a half inch thick. They are kept pliable by frequent rubbings with the fatty part of a cow's udder or stomach, or some such animal fat.

The Mexicans sometimes use a light, stiff, hard twisted catch rope made of a grass found in Mexico. This is thinner than the ordinary throw rope or lariat ($\frac{1}{8}$ "), and is sometimes called a *maguey*. These ropes do not become soft and raggy from use and so were often used and preferred in contest roping; but are not strong enough for heavy work. The lariat has the meaning more of a picket rope and corresponded in Texas to the stake rope. (Hough).

A tie-rope is sometimes carried, being knotted around the pony's neck with a non-slip loop or to a hackamore under the

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bridle, the loose end coiled and tied in a small loop to the near side of the swell, by the saddle strings. Twisted hair tie-ropes are common to Mexico and the Southwest, and it was believed that if one of these was laid around a rider at night that it would keep the centipedes, scorpions and the like away from him. This may be so as the loose ends of horse hair sticking out from the twist of the rope make a pretty good fence for a bug to crawl over.

Bridles are of different kinds but mostly of the usual type, and strong. Some are composed of a single broad strap with a slit in it which fits over one ear to keep it in place, and are called one-eared bridles. Sometimes a thong is tied on as a throat latch, but often not. Many bridles are handsomely carved and silver mounted like the saddles, and a breast plate is sometimes worn, but mostly as an ornament. Such gear is more for show and the working rigs are plainer and stronger. Bridles are sometimes made of woven horsehair and richly ornamented with tassels and silver conchas.

The ordinary bridle is composed of two cheek pieces and a head piece, usually all in one, with a buckle on the near side for adjustment, a brow band and a throat latch to keep the headpiece in place. The bit is usually tied in with rawhide strings and conchas, but sometimes buckles are used. A noseband is often used but not always, and generally not.

Bits are of many kinds and designs, some plain and some silver mounted. These include the spade or spanish, which is a very severe bit with a high port and a piece of flat steel fastened to it which acts as a lever against the roof of the horse's mouth (also has a cricket). The shank or cheek of the spade is very long and the use of a curb chain or strap gives a tremendous leverage. This bit is cruel and is not much in use nowadays.



A South American Saddle



A Persian Saddle



A Dude Saddle (low cantle and swell)



A Bronc Saddle

Courtesy Abercrombie and Fitch

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It was used principally by the Spanish, in the Southwest (later by the Mexicans) It probably originated from the old Spanish ring bit of the early days, which is fast disappearing even as a relic. This ring bit had a high port and a steel ring which slipped over the horse's under jaw and acted like the present-day curb chain. It was possible for a strong rider to break a horse's jaw with either one of these bits. The idea was to make a horse respond quickly to a slight pull on the bit, but a rough-handed rider could deal him a lot of misery.

Next to the spade is the halfbreed. This bit has a medium high port with a roller (cricket) in it, and a fairly long shank, and is used with a curb strap or chain. This is also a severe bit but not so bad as the spade.

Other types of bits have lower ports, with smooth bars and shorter shanks. These are less severe and more generally used on mild horses.

The reins of a cowboy bridle are long and wide and always split, and the ends often drop down below a rider's knee after passing through his hand. Reins are often made of oil tanned or latigo leather, being tough and less apt to cut, and sometimes they are made extra long, especially for breaking horses and riding young stock, and are sometimes called bronc-reins because of this. The ends could be used for a quirt and the length of rein allowed a rider to get well away from a striking pony when dismounted, and still control him.

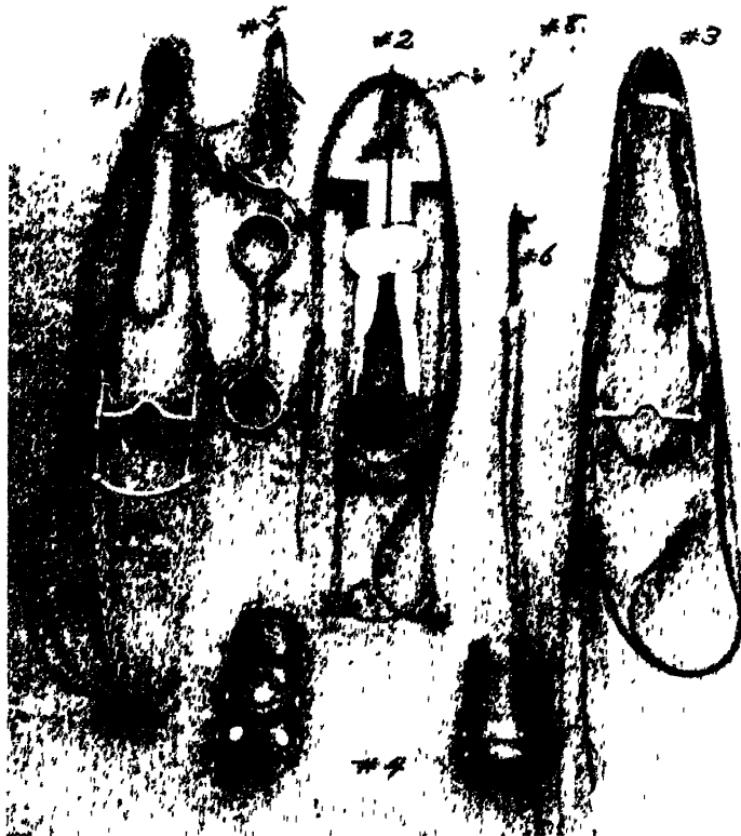
Cowboy boots are always of interest and a wonder to the uninitiated, and probably their real purpose and usefulness is little realized. These boots are made on a strong last with heavy sole and reinforced instep and heels that are high and strong. The boot is also shaped to the rider's foot and not broad at the toe like ordinary shoes, and the soles are cut close. The counter

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is also reinforced and the boot built to fit snug and tight. The height of the leg varies from a knee-high working boot to a very low contest boot, which is often richly carved or ornamented with colored leather or stitching.

Cowboy boots are built for work and every feature has a practical meaning. They are built close fitting so as to slip in and out of a stirrup easily. The high heels keep the rider's foot from slipping through the stirrup which would often might mean his life; also they give a strong brace when working in the saddle, and the heavy reinforced arch protects the instep from strain. The high heels act as an anchor when roping on foot and gives the rider a purchase to pull against where he would slip with a flat heel. The heavy counter gives a firm seat for his spurs and supports the heels, and the whole makes a clean compact job. All boots are full soled and when repaired should be so, and the soles should be watched carefully. Many a rider has come to grief by being hung up in a stirrup, by a torn boot sole.

Spurs are not an ornament in the West as they often are in the East; they are a tool of the trade. Whips or quirts are seldom used except in breaking and training young horses, as a cowboy needs both hands and signals his pony with his heels and, if necessary, teaches him to behave. Cowboy spurs are of all kinds and shapes although mostly alike in general design. Some are plain and some are silver or gold mounted and with big rowells or wheels, which often are of tempered steel, so hung as to ring when the rider walks, or by the jogging of his pony. These fancy spurs are more common to Mexico and the Southwest and are probably of Spanish origin and so used in those sections of the country where the Spanish customs and type of horses and rig took deeper root and are more evident.



1. *Round sewn bridle with bit chains and rawhide reins. (Chains keep horses from chewing reins.)*
2. *Old silver mounted Navajo bridle with old Spanish ring bit.*
3. *Modern stamped leather bridle with extra long Bronc reins made of Latigo leather.*
4. *Leather cuffs.*
5. *Bronc spurs.*
6. *Quirt.*
7. *Rawhide hobble.*
8. *Fancy inlaid spurs.*

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Spurs are usually fastened to the boot by a strap under the instep and a wide piece of carved leather which buttons over the instep, thus protecting the boot from the wear of the stirrup throat as well as keeping the spur in place. Sometimes straps with buckles are used, but these are not liked so much as they are apt to catch in the stirrup.

Maybe the most picturesque part of a cowboy's rig next to his hat is his *chaperajos* or chaps. These were built for protection and warmth, but of late years many wear them for show only. The old time chaps were just a pair of leather leggings held up by a belt laced together at the top in front. This lacing was of thin leather so that it would break easily with a slight strain. This was done so that a rider would not get hung up when thrown if his chaps got caught on the saddle horn. Riders have been dragged to death this way more than once. Chaps are of many kinds and shapes, but the principle is the same. In the South a leather chap either straight-legged or batwing is usually worn while in the colder northern countries "woolies" or angoras are sometimes preferred, especially in the mountains. Woolies are made of leather with angora goat skin on the front. This silky hair helps shed the rain and snow, and the protection of a big pair of angora batwings is considerable. Originally the chaperajos was straight-legged and sometimes fringed at the sides, in some cases having been made by tying the ends of the fringe together to form the leg, but more often laced up the side. Later on snaps and rings were used, especially with the batwings, and the legs could thus be unhooked as far as desired to give more play, and facilitate drying when they got wet. Sometimes the angora hair was spotted by sewing in pieces of another color and these chaps were called "pinto" chaps. Oftentimes the belts are richly carved and the leather

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chaps have wide wings, ornamented with silver conchas, studs and coloured leather, making designs, initials and names. Contest chaps are made extra light and usually worn unhooked from the knee down, so as to give the rider free play with his legs in hooking his *caballo*, (horse).

Leather cuffs are sometimes worn, which fit snugly and protect the wrists and keep the shirt cuff from getting in the way of rope or reins (Not generally used). They also keep dust and rain from blowing up the sleeves.

Heavy buckskin or horsehide gloves are often worn to protect the rider's hands from rope burn and branding iron, and sometimes these gloves have gauntlets which took the place of the leather cuffs. All the cowboy's clothes are made close fitting from his blue-jeans, or Californias, to his flannel shirt. In this way there is less slipping and chafing and everything is out of the way when action comes along.

The cowboy often wears a vest (unbuttoned) without a coat so that he can have some pockets to keep *makin's* and other small knicknacks in, and as a protection. This leaves his arms free to work where a coat would be binding and in the way.

Oftentimes he will wear a bobtailed horsehide (or sheepskin in winter) coat. This is built short and fits snug at the waist so that the back of it cannot get between the rider and his saddle, or the skirts get tangled up with his rope when working.

Sometimes a rider wears a broad leather bucking-belt to support his back and stomach muscles. This is used mostly by bronc-fighters when riding rough horses, from which it got its name.

Even the bandana worn around a cowboy's neck has a meaning. This scarf usually worn knotted loosely in front, not only helps to keep the sun off the rider's neck, but when reversed

Plate 2

1. Relay saddle, showing arrangement of hook rings and stirrups. 2. Cinch used on relay saddle. Made of rubber, with hand loop and hook for fast cinching. 3. Saddle tree showing cinch ring rigging in place. This shows a $\frac{1}{2}$ double rig, with an *easy-rig* ring. Note strength of this rigging. (Not a relay tree.)

PLATE - 2 -

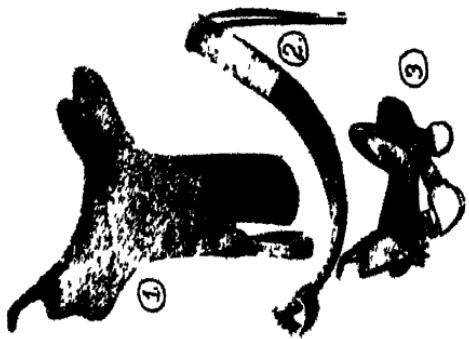
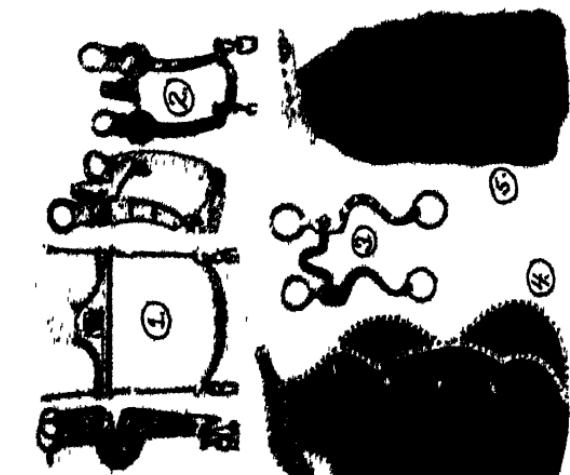


Plate 1

1. Silver mounted *sabre* bit. 2. Silver mounted *half-breed* bit. 3. Low port, long shanked bit. 4. Fancy leather *bathing* chaps. 5. Solid colour *angora* wool chaps (barwing).

PLATE - 1 -



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and worn over his nose and mouth, keeps out the dust kicked up by a bunch of cattle or horses, and is often a necessity.

A cowboy sombrero, Stetson, or ten-gallon hat is probably the ear-mark of the trade, of recent years. Even in dude-clothes a cowboy looks his part as long as he wears his hat. Take this away from him and he looks like most other hardworking, outdoor *hombres*. The Stetson is usually made of heavy felt in grey or black and got its name from the maker who has specialized in this type of hat for many years. Sometimes a heavy velour is used instead of felt (in recent years), but they are more for show and not as tough. The broad brim helps keep the sun from the rider's head and neck, in good weather, and rain or snow in bad. The high crown helps keep the head from feeling the sun and has often acted as a bucket for watering his horse. Even the crease in the crown has a meaning, as it makes the rain run towards the front. The curled-up wide brim acts as a gutter and the turn down in front sheds the water that way and keeps it from running down the rider's neck, and the brim from flopping about his ears. Most sombreros have a leather strap for a band which makes it possible to tighten the hat in windy weather. Many different styles of sombreros were worn according to the locality and conditions, and it was said that you could tell the state and county from which a rider came by the size and shape of his hat and the way it was creased. The high crowns and wide brims are popular in the open desert country, while in the thick and hilly country of the north, a smaller hat is usually preferred as it is less in the way. The super wide brimmed, high crowned hat, however, is an adoption of recent years. In the old cow-days, a much smaller, and practical, hat was worn.

Last, but not least, is the cowboy's slicker. This oilskin rain-

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coat split front and back covers him all over and the long skirts go down to his stirrups and can be spread over rope and swell. The back fits over the cantle and so keeps the rain from running down into the seat, and taking it all in all a rider can keep pretty dry. The slicker when not in use is tied on the saddle behind the cantle, by the saddle strings, and often acts as a protection for blankets and such when on the move, and few cowboys travel far without it.

The six-gun, smoke-wagon, or Colt as it is usually called, (due to the maker's name) is usually worn in a low-swung, open holster on the right side. The holster is swung on a broad belt, furnished with loops for cartridges, and sometimes it is tied to the leg by a strap or thong to make quick drawing easier and surer, as well as to keep the gun from bouncing around on the rider's thigh when riding. The old frontier style, single action Colt, has always been, until recent years, the popular gun with the cowboy. Its big "forty-five" calibre slug could stop most anything, and the rugged simple construction of the gun made it almost impossible to break or get out of order. Usually the Colt was loaded with five cartridges only, the hammer being let down on an empty chamber. This made it safe to carry on horseback and a one-handed gun all the time. However, when trouble was expected the extra shell was slipped in. The six-gun was carried for protection mostly, and as a means of killing a steer or horse which might have broken its leg or gotten a rider tangled in his own rope. In the old days a hand-gun was a necessity and a rider didn't move without it. But nowadays it is not often necessary and they are seldom worn in most sections and are barred by law in some. When a cowboy wanted more artillery, or hardware, he would pack a forty-four calibre (Winchester) carbine, or in the old days

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the heavy Sharp. The Rifle was carried in a leather scabbard which was usually slung under his left knee between the under stirrup leather and the fender. Sometimes it was swung with the butt to the rear so as to get it out of the way, and make it easy to draw when dismounting but when mounted it was harder to pull fast when hung this way.

When a cowboy got decked out for a jig, he wore all his best clothes and many fancy dudads to make himself "look pretty". However, when he was working, his outfit was plain and serviceable and built for his job and to stand the gaff of hard work and bad weather.

He has his little vanities but they are human and understandable when the hard work he does and the misery he often goes through is reckoned. And so, no matter whether his shirt is silk or wool, or his spurs silver-inlaid or plain, each part of his outfit has the same underlying idea of usefulness.

Note: The description of cowboy clothes and equipment used here is generally true of the old days, as it is today. Of course, there are changes in styles, and materials, due to time. Clothes and equipment change with the use the individual has for them and he usually dresses according to his job. I have spoken here in the present tense, realizing, of course, that things have changed materially.

CHAPTER XII

DUDES, DUDEENES AND DON'TS

Pink Bates is shavin' ev'ry night!
An' Shorty goes down to the crick
An' scrubs hisself till he's as white
As any dood! It makes me sick'
An' gosh! The dog they're slingin' on
When they strut out to the corral!
An' all becuz they're jest dead-gone
On that swell-lookin' Boston gal!

—BRININSTOOL: *Cupid on a Cow Ranch**

DUDES probably got their name, or rather nickname, from the handle given them by the old time westerner in the frontier towns. This does not necessarily mean the rancher or cow-hand, but the frolicsome cowboys, gamblers and riffraff that were to be found on any early frontier. No doubt the outsider drifting into these towns for the first time, looked mighty queer to those rough and ready characters who called themselves citizens. The many English and other Europeans while passing through, or on big game hunting trips, must have looked out of place and affected in their queer looking rigs, which were ordinary enough when one was used to them.

In the early days along the frontier and in the thinly settled districts, clothes were designed and worn for their usefulness and anything fancy or out of the ordinary was looked down upon. True, the cowboys had their little vanities but their stuff was taken more or less for granted and, even if fancy, was useful.

So the name of dude was applied to an outsider, city per-

* E. A. Brininstool—*Traul Dust of a Maverick*—Reprinted by special permission of the author.

Photo Brown, Courtesy No Pacific Ry

A bit of Wyoming



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son or tenderfoot; one who came from another element of society and locality; in short, a stranger as far as the West and its ways were concerned. As the name dude was applied to a male, so the word dudeen later was made to fit the female, and the business of catering to them was called dude ranching and the boss a dude wrangler.

Probably about the time the term dude ranch became recognized, the word dude took on a new significance. It no longer held the meaning of dandy or sport, but was used in a broader sense just to signify a person who is a new comer to the West; or, to be more exact, a transient or visitor. This could apply to travelers from the West Coast as well as the East and in fact a resident of the West itself, but mostly referred to city folks, summer boarders and pleasure seekers. There is no hint of disrespect or mockery in the word dude as it is used today, and it applies to big and little, great and humble alike. A great polo player, explorer or big game hunter is just as much a dude in this sense as the humblest city clerk or gayest débutante, as far as the name goes. It is just simply a word coined to fit the case and might just as well have been summer boarder, tourist, guest or some other title.

The term old-timer usually means a person who has lived in the west for some time. He does not need to be a native, or in fact a resident of old standing, although that was the first and truest meaning of the word. Nowadays one who has spent a lot of time west or taken up a ranch may after a while be called an old-timer, and the use of this term is one of the surest signs that he or she has been accepted and approved of in the community.

The opposite of the dudes are the roughnecks or savages. They are the workers or, what would be called in the east,

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Photo Brown

Buffalo Bill's Old Ranch, the T.E.



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take a pride in it and consider themselves specialists from the chore boy up to the foreman or *segundo*, and want it to be recognized. Every savage has his job and it is just as wrong to ask a rider to carry a suitcase as it is to ask the chore boy to catch up a horse. They have lots of pride and independence and sense of equality which should be recognized, and catered to, within reason.

Some of the dude ranches are big, and handle a lot of dudes in a season and, in consequence, there is often a pretty mixed crowd and lots going on all the time. The smaller ranches, tucked away in odd corners, are often quieter and more home-like and there is less excitement and more of the western spirit; but it all depends upon what one is looking for. However, the layouts are more or less the same in the same locality. There is usually the main ranch building of logs, slabs, or adobe, according to the country, with a big, comfortable lounging and reading room, open fireplace and easy chairs. Besides this, there is the dining room where the grub-pile is set out, and then the many cabins and tents for the guests, and maybe a writing or card room where you can be quiet. Often there is a dance room for recreation on wet days and the weekly jig. Then there are the corrals and saddle house, saddle racks and barns, the blacksmith shop, saddle-maker's shop and other buildings.

On your first morning you will probably be sleeping soundly when you will be awakened by the musical clang of the rising bell, which means all up and to be dressed for breakfast in a half hour or so. After getting into riding togs, fishing clothes or tramping suit, which are usually the same, you skin into the dining room just as things are starting and eat more breakfast than you ever did before in your life, and like it. Then after sitting around a bit, you will probably go to the

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corral and be assigned a horse, saddle, bridle and saddle blanket, or pad, which are to be yours throughout your stay. The horse is looked out for by the wranglers, when you turn him in, but your saddle, bridle and blanket are your responsibility and should be looked after and cared for. After having been allotted your outfit you are shown how to saddle and bridle your horse, although the wranglers or corral boss are there to do it for you if necessary. But it is well to learn as it saves time when they are busy and you may have to do it yourself some time. With your horse saddled and bridled and your stirrups adjusted, you find out what you can from the corral boss about your horse and then start out for your ride, and take it easy at first and get used to your mount. After an hour or so in the saddle you will probably have enough for the first day and be glad to sit around a bit before dinner, which you will more than welcome. In the afternoon you may ride again, take a walk, go fishing, or just stick around and look things over, and again find yourself ready to eat.

After supper you will usually be ready to hit the hay, pronto or maybe, if you are ambitious, you may shake a foot at the jig that usually starts when there is anyone to bang-the-box. Thus the day passes and each day varies, if the dude wrangler knows his business. This is the general layout and routine of an average big dude ranch. They are all different, but the idea is about the same and the horse problem is similar, except that grazing conditions may be better in some sections than in others.

Those who have never experienced the lure of the Western country and the life led there, even if in replica, have missed much. Still it is not irrevocable, and one may even now during this hectic day and age sip from the cup that once was free to all.

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To gaze over the mighty landscape, which is a heritage handed down through creation; to live amongst the scenes and in the land of chaotic strife and romantic history; to sleep under the Western stars, and breathe deep of the potent and soothing air of the plains and mountains, to be able to forget the pressing crises of one's daily life, and in the doing thereof, build up body, mind, courage and stamina; to feel the whip of the wind and the dash of the rain, and maybe the chill sting of snow and hail; to feel a good horse between one's knees and the ever pressing urge and thrill of nature in the raw, is something to live for.

The West has changed. There is no doubt of it. But in the changing, possibly it has benefitted and thereby given more to mankind.

The old reckless history making days are over, *but* out of the chaos has sprung a mighty *playground* for the world weary citizen. A playground where he can let fancy run riot; where he can really play, relax and live the life of his imagination, if only for a brief period, and thereby be refreshed and help himself to "carry-on".

This is the West of today. It will probably always be so, for it is fitted for just these things. The dude rancher is helping and, through his efforts, has made it possible for the average citizen to taste of that which was once only available to the hardy.

But there are still ideas and ideals in the West, and rightly so. The Westerner still has his place and will keep it, and while he is willing and anxious to help and cater to those who desire to look in on his life, still he expects, and again rightly so, to receive due consideration. His country is different from other sections and his life and background has also been *some*

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different. Hence those who "drift out younder", should have this in mind and by so doing, everyone will be happy.

Everyone wants to do the right thing but oftentimes one gets off on the wrong foot, just because one doesn't understand ways and conditions. There are many things in the daily life of the dude, which if done right, make things smooth and easy and, if not, cause plenty of misery to them and others. This is so of every situation in life, but when we are on familiar ground it is easier to keep from making mistakes. And so having once been a dude and also having had a bit of the working end of the dude ranch, I can understand both sides and feel qualified to lay down a few suggestions which may be helpful, if taken in the right spirit.

DON'T be unreasonable and take the attitude that because you are paying for it you must have everything up to scratch. The problems of the dude wrangler are hard ones at times.

DON'T arrive with several trunks of fancy clothes and a litter of hand baggage with the idea of staggering the inhabitants and the other guests. Wear comfortable but serviceable clothes; they look better and you will have more fun.

DON'T fail to acquaint yourself, as soon as you can, with the customs of the ranch, the meal hours and such. It will make things easier for yourself and everyone else.

DON'T grumble about things; if you have a kick, go to the boss and register it, and if it is a fair one, he will fix you up or tell you why it can't be done.



The Valley Ranch on the Shoshone, Wyoming

Photo Brown, Courtesy No. Pacific Ry

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

DON'T monopolize the washroom; there are a few others who also look forward with pleasure to Saturday night; we are all human and the river water is cold.

DON'T keep everyone awake at night when you ought to be in bed because you are feeling good or getting a thrill over the glorious moon. Maybe someone has indigestion or wants to sleep; go out in the sagebrush and sit on a rock.

DON'T be late to meals; remember the cook has *some* job and usually cooks for two outfits—the savages and the dudes, and by the time one meal is over it is time to start getting the next.

DON'T lie in bed mornings and then expect to get a ham omelet when you get to the grub-pile. If you are not well you will be taken care of, but don't get in the habit.

DON'T try to dress like a buckaroo and carry a lot of things you don't know how to use. You may be called on to give an exhibition some day and it may be embarrassing.

DON'T think you are tough and try to be a full-fledged puncher the first day out. It doesn't pay and you get off on the wrong foot.

DON'T stride down to the corral during the morning saddling and nag the wranglers to fetch up *your* horse and saddle him for you. Wait your turn and you will get service, otherwise you will collect nothing but misery and you will *sure* have to wait.

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DON'T take someone else's bridle or saddle blanket, because you can't find yours; they may want to ride themselves.

DON'T fail to throw your saddle on the rack when you come in. Don't leave it on the ground; it might rain and warp the tree, or a hen may come along looking for a place to park an egg, and anyway the skirts get creased.

DON'T forget to hang your saddle blanket so that it will dry if it is sweaty, and where it won't get rained on. Sore backs are easy to get on a pony and hard to get rid of.

DON'T forget to hang your bridle in its place or take it to your bunk. You will then always know where it is; it may be handy.

DON'T think your pony is Man O' War, Jr., or a flivver. He's got feelings just like you and has got to work harder for his meals.

DON'T tie up to the pet flower bed or the flag pole; the boss may be trying to raise some lilies, or the "Stars and Stripes". Besides, there is a hitching rack for just that purpose.

DON'T have your pony tied up and cinched tight while you eat and play. He may park well but the wear and tear is harder than on a flivver or bicycle. Unsaddle and turn him into the corral when you are not using him, if only for an hour or so, and give him a drink.

Photo Kemp, Courtesy A. T. and S. F. Ry.

A New Mexico Dude Ranch



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DON'T try to discover new short cuts or fords. Better stick to the well-defined, proven ones. It is less chancey and once in a while there is quicksand. Just because Columbus had a little luck is no guarantee that you will.

DON'T head your pony down stream when crossing a ford; if you have to swim it should be towards the current, and be sure the bank will let you land when you are across. Give yourself plenty of room and the horse his head and allow for current.

DON'T slow your pony up if he is getting "bogged down". Keep him moving, and moving hard till you are out of the mess, either forward or back, and keep your feet clear and high in case he falls.

DON'T water your pony when he is hot; it is bad business and you may founder him, but let him drink whenever possible otherwise, but not too much.

DON'T ride in boots or shoes that are half-soled or worn through, or in sneakers. You are apt to get "hung up".

DON'T go out in the hills to lunch and turn your pony loose with the bridle off. If he is broken to stand on the rein, O. K.; if not, then tie him up or picket him. It is also well to unsaddle if picketing your pony as he may decide to roll. And this is hard on saddles. Otherwise tie him up and loosen the cinch; it eases his back, but don't forget to tighten it again before mounting.

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DON'T ride with a loose cinch; it may turn sometime and anyway you are apt to lose your saddle blanket.

DON'T use a broken rein or bridle, or a badly frayed cinch; they may give way when you need them most. Tell the corral boss about it and he will change it.

DON'T tie your pony in the brush and then forget where you tied him. There will be no one there to call: "Still Pond, No More Moving," and a pony must eat.

DON'T tie your pony up where he can hang himself or break a leg, or rub your saddle off, and a lot of other funny things. Good ponies are scarce and when they want to kill 'em they use a forty-five and use 'em for "bait."

DON'T unsaddle a hot pony immediately, loosen the cinch and let him cool out a bit, out of the wind, otherwise sore backs occur, although not as easily as in the eastern horse. Just use a little judgment.

DON'T get in the habit of always being late to supper. The ponies are hazed out to pasture about then and you may keep the whole bunch from feeding, or cause a tired wrangler to make an extra trip with your pony.

DON'T expect to ride all day and all night too; the moon may be lovely but your pony has to eat sometime. Talk it over with the corral boss; maybe he can help you. He was probably young and romantic and full of ambition once himself until he got mixed up in the dude business.

Photo Belden

Peace, perfect peace



DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

DON'T be a stiff shirt; join in the fun and do your bit with the talents you possess.

DON'T indulge in practical jokes and subtle dry humor; it doesn't go over in the West. Say what you mean, you are less apt to give a wrong impression and do *yourself* an injustice.

DON'T (If you are a lovely female) go out to tie a couple of cowboy scalps to your belt just for the excitement; you may get fooled.

DON'T be unreasonable or a crank; just be a good sport; use a little judgment and be a bit considerate, and you will be "*settin' pretty all the way.*"

ADIOS

THE heritage of the old time West has been handed down to the dude rancher. His now is the responsibility to keep forever fanning those few sparks and embers still left, and thus keep alive the memory of those traditions that made this country what it was during the mighty days of its making. Let him realize his responsibility and honestly endeavor to be worthy of it. Let him not fail those who have come to depend on him for that fullness in their lives that they can find in no other place and obtain in no other way. Let him realize the privilege that is accorded to him in helping to create a spot where the world-weary victims of modern times can go to refresh themselves from the wear and tear of their daily struggle for existence and attainment, and, thus refreshed, be stronger and better to go on and work out their destiny. Above all, let him do his bit towards keeping a place for that link of the Old West that was and is one of its greatest assets, and was and is a tradition and a heartbeat to those who have known and loved him—THE WESTERN HORSE. Times have changed—places have changed—and ideals have changed—but there are many to whom the West gives what they have sought for elsewhere in vain.

*The hills on which the cattle grazed
Were once the battle-gounds where men,
Far from the haunts of womankind,
Won, or were beaten—life throbbed then
With meanings all unknown to-day.
Where once the roundup camp-fire blazed,
The ranch light shines like star upon
The hills on which the cattle grazed.*

—CHAPMAN: *The Changed Hills**

* op. cit

THE END



APPENDIX
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LIST OF RODEOS

Some of the *Rodeos* held in past years, many of which are still carrying on, were:

The Round Up,	Santa Ana, California.
Red Bluff Roundup,	Red Bluff, "
Hoot Gibson Ranch Rodeo,	Saugus, "
Modesto Rodeo,	Modesto, "
Rodeo,	Coarsegold, "
Rodeo,	Sonora, "
American Legion,	Kingsburg, "
Rodeo,	Hayward, "
Millerick Ranch Rodeo,	Shellville, "
Rodeo,	Visalia, "
Rodeo,	Ukiah, "
Roundup and Gymkhana,	Gilroy, "
Moose Jaw Rodeo,	Moose Jaw, Sask., Canada.
Livingston Roundup,	Livingston, Montana.
Black Hills Tri-State Round-up,	Belle Fourche, S. D.
Cody Stampede,	Cody, Wyoming.
Anvil Park Rodeo,	Canadian, Texas.
R. R. Workers Annual Rodeo,	Deer Lodge, Montana.
Livermore Rodeo,	Livermore, California.
Miles City Roundup,	Miles City, Montana.
Red Lodge Rodeo,	Red Lodge, "
Calgary Exhibition and Stampede,	Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
Wolf Point Stampede,	Wolf Point, Montana.
Sheridan Rodeo, Inc.,	Sheridan, Wyoming.
Rodeo,	North Platte, Nebraska.
Frontier Days,	Cheyenne, Wyoming.
California Rodeo,	Salinas, California.
Ski-Hi Stampede,	Monte Vista, Colorado.
Big Timber Rodeo,	Big Timber, Montana.
Rodeo,	Phillipsburgh, Kansas.

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Rodeo,	Deadwood, S. D.
Nebraska's Big Rodeo,	Burwell, Nebraska.
Annual Wild West Show,	Butte, Montana.
Iowa's Championship Rodeo,	Sidney, Iowa.
Custer County Rodeo Fair,	Broken Bow, Nebraska.
Great Falls Rodeo,	Great Falls, Montana.
Rodeo,	Hyanus, Nebraska.
Rodeo,	Forsythe, Montana.
Rodeo,	Billings, "
Cambria Roundup,	Cambria, California.
Merced County Roundup,	Merced, "
Wyoming State Fair,	Douglas, Wyoming.
Humbolt County Fair Ass'n,	Winnemucca, Nevada.
Madison Square Garden	
Rodeo,	New York City.
Pinal Punchers Parada,	Florence, Arizona.
The Roundup,	Pendleton, Oregon.
Cattle Mens Carnival,	Fort Worth, Texas.
Festival of the Mountain and	
Plains,	Denver, Colorado.
Stampede,	Winnipeg, Canada.
Border Days,	Grangeville, Idaho.
Frontier Roundup,	Kearney, Nebraska.
War Bonnet Roundup,	Idaho Falls, Idaho.
Cowboys' Convention,	Ukiah, O.
Frontier Days,	Walla Walla, Washington.

RODEO CONTEST RULES

Note

The *Contest Rules* given here are exemplary of modern Rodeo rules. They were those used at the Rodeo at Butte, Montana (1932) and were the general rules adopted by the Rodeo Association of America, with additional special rules approved by that association. (Not up to date—for example only.)

GENERAL RULES

The general rules governing the conduct of Butte's Championship Rodeo are those adopted by the Rodeo Association of America, of which this show is a member. The rules governing the individual contest are approved by the Rodeo Association of America and are designed to cover local and arena conditions.

- (1) The management reserves the right to reject the entry of any contestant who has violated the general rules, who has been dishonest in competition, or who has proven to be undesirable at any recognized rodeo contest.
- (2) All the contestants are required to read the rules carefully, particularly those relating to the contest or events in which they enter. Failure to understand rules will not be accepted as an excuse.
- (3) The management assumes no responsibility or liability for injury or damage to the person, property or stock of any owner, contestant or assistant. Each participant, by the act of his entry, waives all claim against the management for injuries he, or his property, may sustain.

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(4) The timers, judges and all other officials shall be appointed by the management and their decisions will be final in all matters relating to the contests in which they are called to officiate.

(5) Contestants should be at place indicated by management when drawing for horses and places is held. If they are not present, either in person or by a representative, the management will name someone to draw for them and contestants must accept the selection made. Numbers will be furnished by management to all contestants and number must be displayed so as to be visible to spectators and judges.

(6) Contestants must be on hand to answer call of Arena Director and must comply with all other rules of the management of each particular contest or exhibition, held under the auspices of the R. A. A. When, in the opinion of the Arena Director, a sufficient number of contestants are present for an event, there will be no delay because other contestants are not present.

(7) Substitutes will not be permitted in any event or contest.

(8) Requests for withdrawals from any event or contest and the return of entrance fee will be passed on by the management and such requests will not be considered (except in case of injury to contestant) unless made at least one day in advance.

(9) The management may withdraw any contestant's name and entry, debar him from any or all events and withhold any money due him, for violation of any of the governing rules or rules of the judges, or for any of the following offenses.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

Refusing to contest on animal drawn by or selected for him;
Being under the influence of liquor;
Rowdyism;
Mistreatment of stock;
Altercation with judges or officials.

Failure to give assistance when requested to do so by Arena Director, or for any other reason deemed sufficient by the management.

(The management wishes, especially, to announce to all contestants that any attempt to "cheat" the judges, the rules, or the stock may result in the contestant being disqualified and barred from further participation in any or all of the events held under the auspices of the Rodeo Association of America.)

(10) ALL CONTESTANTS MUST PARTICIPATE IN UP-TOWN PARADES AND GRAND ENTRIES.

(11) All entry fees must be paid in advance. Contestants should ask for a receipt signed by the cashier and should obtain their number when entry is made. Name must be signed in full and correct postoffice address given.

(12) The management of each member organization of the Rodeo Association of America may make additional rules not in conflict with the general rules of the Rodeo Association of America.

STEER RIDING

Conditions:

- (1) Contestants entered in Bronc Riding or Calf Roping are eligible only.
- (2) Each contestant must furnish his own rope.
- (3) No knots tied in end and ropes must not be tied on animal to prevent it from coming off.
- (4) Cowboy must leave chute with spurs in steer's neck or shoulder and must scratch animal until whistle blows.
- (5) Cowboy must ride steer across deadline to get mount money.
- (6) The association will not pay mount money to riders failing to scratch or who tie their rope so that it will not come off or using circingle.
- (7) Riders must dismount immediately after whistle blows.

**COWBOYS' TRICK AND FANCY
RIDING CONTEST**

**COWGIRLS' TRICK AND FANCY
RIDING CONTEST**

**BRONC RIDING CONTEST
Open to the World**

Riders and horses for each day will be selected by management; horses to be furnished by management and riders will draw for mounts. If rider draws a horse he has once ridden during this contest, he must draw again. Contestant must ride as often, and on any horse, as judges deem necessary to determine winner. Riding to be done with plain halter or hackamore. ONE rein and saddle, all of which will be furnished by the management. Saddles to be the recognized and accepted association tree and made and rigged on the Hambley design; rein to be three or four strand braided grass or cotton rope and not to exceed one inch in diameter. Rein must be without tape or knots and must not be wrapped around hand. One arm free. Riders must not change hands on rein and rein hand must show daylight above the horse's neck. Riding rein and hand must be on same side. Horses to be saddled in chute or arena as management may direct. Rider may cinch own saddle or examine same to determine if satisfactory. Rider must leave starting place with both feet in stirrups and both spurs against horse's shoulders; must scratch ahead for first five jumps and then high behind cinch. The matter of re-rides will be decided by the judges. Ride is completed when signal is given. In finals, or on last horse, ride must be made without chaps.

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After the horse leaves the starting place, everything the rider does will be counted for or against him.

Bucking horse contest to be timed at all member shows. 10 seconds will be allowed each rider from time signal is given by timer. Ride is completed when signal is given.

Any of the following offenses will disqualify a rider in this contest:

Being bucked off;

Coasting with feet against horse's shoulders;

Changing hands on rein;

Wrapping rein around hand;

Losing stirrup;

Pulling leather;

Failure to leave starting place with both spurs against horse's shoulders;

Not being ready to ride when called;

Use of any substance or preparation on any part of rider's clothing or on any part of his equipment. (The judges will examine clothing, saddle, rein, and spurs and exceptions will be made if local rules make necessary the covering of spur rowels.)

CALF ROPING CONTEST

Open to the World

There shall be three timekeepers, a tie or field judge, a deadline referee, and as many other officials as the local management find necessary.

Any contestant not ready when name is called will receive a mark of no time on that calf. The foul line shall be ten (10) feet from chute and the DEADLINE ten (10) feet farther. When calf crosses DEADLINE the starter drops flag, and the Time starts then. Ten (10) seconds fine will be imposed if roper's mount crosses FOUL line before starter's flag drops. This is a catch-as-catch-can contest. Two loops will be permitted and should contestant miss with both he must retire and no time will be allowed. Roping calf without releasing loop from hand is not permitted. Any catch if loop has passed over calf's head is a fair one, but catch made if loop has not passed over calf's head will carry a ten-second penalty. Catch must hold until roper gets his hands on calf.

Contestant must adjust rope and reins in a manner that will prevent horse from "busting" calf. If calf runs on rope and "busts" itself, no penalty shall be imposed, but if roper deliberately "busts" calf he shall be penalized at least 20 seconds. Contestant must receive no assistance of any kind from the outside. If horse drags calf, field judge may stop horse and any penalty for such dragging will be a matter for local determination.

Rope may be dallied or tied hard and fast—either is permissible. Contestant must dismount, go down rope and throw calf with hand and cross and tie any three feet. If calf is down when roper reaches it, the calf must be let up on his feet and then

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

thrown by hand. The tie must hold until passed on by tie judge and roper must not touch calf after giving finish signal until after judge has completed his examination. If tie comes loose or calf gets to his feet before the tie has been ruled a fair one, the roper will be given two minutes on calf. Judge should remove loop and turn calf over.

STEER WRESTLING CONTEST (BULL DOGGING)

Open to the World

Arena conditions will determine start and deadline rules; penalties for violations of these rules are matters for local determination.

There shall be three timers, a deadline referee, a field judge and as many other officials as the local management find necessary. Animals used for this contest should be closely inspected and objectionable ones eliminated. All steers will be numbered or otherwise identified and drawn for, and, if possible, steers and contestants should be grouped so as to prevent a contestant from drawing the same steer more than once. Contestant will be disqualified if he attempts to, in any way, tamper with steers, chutes, or identification marks. Only one hazer allowed. Contestant must furnish own hazer and horses.

After steer crosses deadline he belongs to wrestler regardless of what happens. After catching steer, wrestler must bring it to a stop and twist it down. If steer is accidentally knocked down before being brought to a stop, or is thrown by wrestler putting animal's horns into ground, it must be let up on all four feet and then thrown. Steer will be considered down only when it is lying flat on its side, all four feet out and head straight. The fairness of catch and throw will be left to the judges and their decision will be final. Wrestler, after throwing steer, must signal his finish to the judge with one hand while holding steer down with other and must not release steer until told to do so by judge. Suitable penalties for releasing steer before judge signals and for loosening or knocking off horn may be imposed by management as they see fit.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

Hazer must retire from field as soon as wrestler catches his steer and must not render any assistance to contestant while contestant is working with steer. Failure to observe this rule will impose penalty on contestant.

There will be a time limit of two minutes in this contest. If wrestler has not caught and thrown his steer in two minutes, he will retire from arena on signal and give no time.

WILD COW MILKING CONTEST

No entrance fee, but entries in this contest must be entered in either the Bronc Riding or Calf Roping contest. No one else will be permitted in this contest.

Rules: Two-man team. Cow herd will be held a reasonable distance from starting line. One man is to rope and milk, other to hold cow. When roper catches cow, he must turn catch rope over to helper. Helper may hold cow by either rope or horns, but he must be afoot. If roper busts cow his team is out. Roper must use milk bottle furnished by committee and obtained at judges' stand. Fully one-half inch of milk must be in the bottom of bottle, which will then be carried to judges, on foot. First, second and third to judges win, if all other requirements have been met. Return all bottles to timers' stand. Don't throw in arena or track.

Judges

DECIDING WINNERS—Each rider shall ride one horse in the preliminary riding, the winners of each day money shall be eligible to ride in the semi-finals. In addition to the four men winning day money, the judges may select not to exceed two (2) riders to go to semi-finals, PROVIDED IN THEIR OPINION these riders, who, although they displayed excellent efforts in following all rules as to scratching, etc., did not draw good enough mounts to thoroughly test their ability to win day money. The four riders standing highest in the semi-finals will receive the day money in the semi-finals and every rider qualifying in the semi-finals shall be eligible for the finals. In awarding the final money, judges will select

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

the men whose total average on each horse ridden at the contest—in the preliminaries, semi-finals, and finals—is highest respectively, first, second, third, etc. In the event that the records show that any two riders' total average is equal, or not at least one clear point ahead of the next nearest competitor, the judges shall order back the hardest horses ridden by the respective riders previously, and then let each rider exhibit his skill upon the horse previously ridden by the other rider, then compare the marking of the men on the same horses.

AVERAGING RIDERS AND HORSES—No two judges shall consult alone. At any time a question arises that judges must consult upon, such as giving a rider another mount, etc., all THREE judges must consult and agree upon the verdict. Each judge shall mark the percentage he gives each rider and horse, as he witnesses their performance from his own position, without consulting either of the other judges. Each judge turns his slip covering each ride into field clerk, who will figure averages from records turned in to him by the judges. Percentage of both horse and rider to be added and divided by two, thus indicating final rating.

Special Rule

All contestants must keep out of the arena during performances unless active participants in the event being staged. Any violators will be fined one-half their entrance fee.

This rule will be rigidly adhered to.

BRANDING LAWS

Extracts and digest of the *Branding Laws* of Wyoming (1921), given here as a matter of interest and example only. For up to date information consult recent laws of the states in question. (For possible revisions of Wyoming laws see revised statutes, 1931—)

Live Stock Laws and Regulations of Wyoming, 1921.

Sect. 3—“Every stock owner who allows his live stock over six months old to range upon the open range or without an enclosure, or to run at large, or mingle with live stock other than his own, shall have and adopt a brand and shall brand his live stock with such brand, which shall be recorded in the office of the County Clerk in each county in which said live stock ranges.”—

Sect. 7—Says in substance that such brands having been approved and recorded—“shall be prima facie evidence of ownership of such animal or animals by the party whose brand or mark it might be,—etc.”

Sect. 12—Says in substance that brand shall be recorded every tenth year, in order to keep it valid.

Sect. 14—Says in substance that a brand may be sold to another by bill of sale executed by the vendor and properly acknowledged.

Sect. 20—“No person shall purchase or slaughter any head of neat cattle until same is distinctly branded,—etc.”

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

Sect. 24—Says in substance that hides must be inspected by proper authority, if one wishes to sell beef or have it for sale.

Sect. 69—Say in substance that all cattle shipped and
70—slaughtered must be inspected by a duly authorized inspector, and brands checked. The Railroads
100— to be held liable for the shipping of stock to points where there is no authorized inspector. Also a road, or travelling brand is required for cattle bought, before driving them out of the state. This brand may be applied by iron or by paint.

Sect. 143—“Whoever brands or alters or defaces the brand of any horse, mule, sheep or neat cattle, of value, the property of another, with intent thereby to steal the same or to prevent the identification thereof, is guilty of a felony and shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary not more than five years.”—

Sect. 144—States in substance that the maximum penalty for the malicious killing of the above mentioned livestock shall not be more than fourteen years.

Sect. 142—States in substance that the penalty for stealing stock shall not be less than one year, nor more than ten years.

Note: House bill No. 129—Chapt. 134—Sect. 3—(1921) states in substance that *hide buyers* must keep a record of hides bought, the brands and vendors.

ESTIMATED

*Number and Value of Livestock in a Few of the Western
States, 1933 (as of Jan 1st.)*

(U. S. Dept. of Agriculture—Crops and Markets)
Vol. 10, No. 2

<i>State.</i>	<i>Horses.</i>	<i>Mules.</i>	<i>Cattle.</i>	<i>Sheep.</i>
Montana.	No. 380,000 \$ 9,294,000.	8,000 233,000.	1,378,000 28,773,000.	4,049,000 11,988,000.
Idaho.	180,000 6,309,000.	7,000 253,000.	687,000 13,400,000.	2,115,000 6,818,000.
Wyoming.	154,000 4,024,000.	4,000 164,000.	906,000 18,015,000.	3,893,000 12,414,000.
Colorado.	318,000 9,902,000.	26,000 1,019,000.	1,526,000 24,600,000.	3,055,000 9,000,000.
New Mexico.	125,000 3,205,000.	21,000 772,000.	1,167,000 17,740,000.	2,820,000 6,443,000.
Arizona.	72,000 2,916,000.	12,000 465,000.	894,000 14,730,000.	1,003,000 2,322,000.
Utah.	83,000 3,792,000.	3,000 119,000.	480,000 9,414,000.	2,360,000 7,173,000.
Nevada.	36,000 1,632,000.	3,000 122,000.	295,000 6,228,000.	890,000 2,982,000.
Washington.	151,000 7,243,000.	20,000 1,095,000.	646,000 16,483,000.	720,000 2,384,000.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

Oregon.	154,000 7,249,000.	14,000 698,000.	835,000 17,612,000.	2,545,000 7,448,000.
California.	176,000 9,526,000.	36,000 2,099,000.	1,887,000 48,192,000.	3,038,000 9,993,000.
<i>Totals.</i>	1,829,000 \$65,092,000.	154,000 7,039,000.	10,701,000 215,187,000.	26,488,000 78,965,000.
Texas.	No. 676,000 \$20,911,000.	922,000 43,651,000.	6,495,000 86,916,000.	7,644,000 18,778,000.

NOTE

The following lists of Dude, or Guest Ranches and resorts while believed to be correct are not guaranteed. These lists are naturally continually changing due to ranches dropping out, being added, or through change of management. The ranches listed here are those reached by the various railroads in question, and while believed to be of the highest order, are not guaranteed, either by the author or the railroads.

The lists are reproduced herewith, as a matter of geographical location, and detailed information concerning them may be obtained by writing the main offices of the railroads or the ranches directly. Some ranches may possibly be reached by more than one line, but are placed here under the head of the railroad which listed them.

Those ranches appearing as members of the Dude Ranchers' Association, are recognized by the Association, and information concerning them may be obtained through that organization. Ranches in this list have applied for membership, but because a ranch does not appear in the list does not mean that it is not a high class ranch in every way.

The word *ranch* is applied to many places in the West which may not meet the average person's idea of such. To quote from one of the railroad's circulars — "In the West every farm is a ranch; they vary in size too, from the small ranch to five or ten thousand acres, and in the case of some of the stock or grain ranches, even larger."

This should be borne in mind.

Author.

*The Following List of Ranches Represents
THE ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP OF
THE DUDE RANCHERS' ASSOCIATION
as of April 15, 1934.*

(Per "The Dude Rancher")

<i>Aldrich Lodge</i>	<i>Bar P Quarter Circle</i>
S. W. Aldrich, Ishawooa, Wyoming.	Wm. Paton, Shell, Wyoming.
<i>Allan Ranch</i>	<i>Buckhorn Lodge</i>
Mrs. Ralph Allan, Augusta, Montana.	E. M. Messister, Parshall, Colorado.
<i>A. Bar A Ranch</i>	<i>Crescent Lazy H Ranch</i>
Andrew Anderson, Encampment, Wyoming.	Gerald H. Brown, Wilson, Wyoming.
<i>A 2 Z Ranch</i>	<i>Cross Quarter Circle Ranch</i>
I. H. Larom, Valley, Wyoming.	Bill Martzel, West Yellowstone, Montana.
<i>Alpine Lodge</i>	<i>C. M. Ranch</i>
Wm. Trask, Alpine, Montana.	C. C. Moore, Dubois, Wyoming.
<i>Blackwater Lodge</i>	<i>Camp Red Cloud</i>
R. R. Wisdom, Cody, Wyoming.	Mrs. Dick Bard, Story, Wyoming.
<i>Beartooth Ranch</i>	<i>Circle W. Ranch</i>
E. J. Ikerman, Dean, Montana.	Geo. F. Weisel, Ovando, Montana.
<i>Bar B C Ranch</i>	<i>Camp Sawtooth</i>
Irving P. Corse, Moose, Wyoming.	F. I. Johnson, Red Lodge, Montana.
<i>Bones Brothers Ranch</i>	<i>Clyde Hurst</i>
Bones Brothers, Birney, Montana.	Mrs. Clyde Bowen, Contact, Montana.
<i>Boyer Ranch</i>	<i>Double Diamond Ranch</i>
J. St. A Boyer, Savery, Wyoming.	Clark and Williams, Jackson, Wyoming.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

<i>Diamond Tail Ranch</i>	<i>E Bar L Ranch</i>
Howard Flitner, Greybull, Wyoming.	O. W. Potter, Greenough, Montana.
<i>Double Dee Ranch</i>	<i>Forsythe Range</i>
Carl Dunrude, Sunshine, Wyoming.	Evans Forsythe, Bozeman, Montana.
<i>Diamond G Ranch</i>	<i>Flathead Recreation Ranch</i>
Foster Scott, Dubois, Wyoming.	Hedden and LeBonte, Big Fork, Montana.
<i>Donald Cattle Co.</i>	<i>Four K Ranch</i>
Bill Donald, Melville, Montana.	Ed Keene, Dean, Montana.
<i>Diamond J Ranch</i>	<i>Gannett Peak Ranches</i>
Julia Benette, Norris, Montana.	Decker & Showers, Cora, Wyoming.
<i>Dot S Dot Ranch</i>	<i>Gallagher Ranch</i>
Harry Hart, Melville, Montana.	Bondera Road, Santa Antonio, Texas.
<i>Deep Canyon Ranch</i>	<i>Gros Vendre Ranch</i>
J. W. White, Choteau, Montana.	David Abercrombie, Kelley, Wyoming.
<i>Double Arrow Ranch</i>	<i>Haggin Y/P Ranch</i>
Jan Bossenvain, Greenough, Montana.	W. L. Beals, Anaconda, Montana.
<i>Elkhorn Ranch</i>	<i>Hot Foot Ranch</i>
Ernest Miller, Bozeman, Montana.	Gratiott Washburn, Duncan, Wyoming.
<i>Elkhorn Springs Lodge</i>	<i>Half Diamond S Ranch</i>
Edw. Hazel, Polaris, Montana.	E. L. Staples, Skookumchuck, B. C.
<i>Elephant Head Lodge</i>	<i>H Bar 9 Ranch</i>
Mrs. H. W. Thurston, Cody, Wyoming.	T. S. Grace, West Yellowstone, Montana.
<i>Eaton Brothers Ranch</i>	<i>Hillman Ranch</i>
Eaton Brothers, Wolf, Wyoming.	Harold Hillman, Big Horn, Wyoming.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

<i>H F Bar Ranch</i>	<i>M J G Ranch</i>
F. O. Horton, Buffalo, Wyoming.	J. A. Hopkins, Joseph, Oregon.
<i>Holm Lodge</i>	<i>Ox Yoke Ranch</i>
J. W. Howell Co., Cody, Wyoming.	Charles Murphy, Emigrant, Montana.
<i>Herford Wellington Ranch</i>	<i>O T O Ranch</i>
Helen Herford, Limestone, Montana.	Dick Randall, Dude Ranch, Montana.
<i>Monte Jones.</i>	<i>Pass Creek Ranch</i>
Big Game Hunter, Cody, Wyoming.	Sandy Jaques, Parkman, Wyoming.
<i>Jackson Lake Lodge</i>	<i>Pierson's Dude Ranch</i>
Mr. Cone, Moran, Wyoming.	G. W. Pierson, Delpiedra, California.
<i>Kratz Ranch</i>	<i>Pahaska Tepee</i>
B. L. Kratz, Absarokee, Montana.	A. E. Wilkinson, Cody, Wyoming.
<i>J O Ranch</i>	<i>Paradise Ranch</i>
Al Croonquist, Moose, Wyoming.	F. O. Horton, Buffalo, Wyoming.
<i>Lazy K Bar Ranch</i>	<i>Quarter Circle U Ranch</i>
Paul Van Cleve, Jr., Big Timber, Montana.	Grace Brewster Arnold, Birney, Montana.
<i>Klondike Ranch</i>	<i>Riddle Ranch</i>
Hackert Bros., Buffalo, Wyoming.	Dewey Riddle, Painter, Wyoming.
<i>Laird's Recreation Lodge</i>	<i>Rimrocks Ranch</i>
Eli Laird, Seeley Lake, P. O. Montana.	Phil Spear, Lodge Grass, Montana.
<i>L-T Ranch</i>	<i>Rimrock Ranch</i>
Lawrence Nordquist, Cooke City, Montana.	Eaton Brothers, Rimrock, Arizona.
<i>Lazy Bar F Ranch</i>	<i>Saburo Lake Ranch</i>
Max Wilde, Valley, Wyoming.	Phil Lewis, Mesa, Arizona.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

<i>Spear O Wigwam</i>	<i>The Hideout Lodge</i>
Jassamine Spear Johnson, Big Horn, Wyoming.	K. E. Zimmer, Clayton, Idaho.
<i>Snowy Range Ranch</i>	<i>Tepee Lodge</i>
Kester Counts, Livingston, Montana.	Allen O. Fordyce, Big Horn, Wyoming.
<i>S T S Ranch</i>	<i>T O Bar Ranch</i>
Buster Estes, Moose, Wyoming.	Dave Branger, Roscoe, Montana.
<i>Seven Up Ranch</i>	<i>T Cross Ranch</i>
J. E. Bower, Lincoln, Montana.	Robert S. Cox, Dubois, Wyoming.
<i>Saddle Pockets Ranch</i>	<i>Two N Ranch</i>
R. D. Salisbury, Battle Creek, Colorado.	L. O. McMichels, Dubois, Wyoming.
<i>Sunlight Ranch</i>	<i>Valley Ranch</i>
Simon Snyder, Painter, Wyoming.	I. H. Larom, Valley, Wyoming.
<i>T A T Ranch</i>	<i>White Grass Ranch</i>
F. W. Leach, Kearney, Wyoming.	Harold Hammond, Moose, Wyoming.

Address —

Dude Ranchers Ass'n. (A. H. Croonquist)
Northern Hotel,
Billings, Montana.

*RANCHES REACHED BY
THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD*
Northern Wyoming and Montana

<i>Absaroka Lodge</i>	<i>C M Ranch</i>
Cody, Wyoming.	Bonneville, Wyoming.
<i>Aldrich Lodge</i>	<i>Camp Beartooth</i>
Cody, Wyoming.	Red Lodge, Montana.
<i>Alhambra Hot Springs</i>	<i>Camp Lincoln</i>
Helena, Montana.	Helena, Montana.
<i>Allan Ranch</i>	<i>Camp Mason</i>
Helena, Montana.	Helena, Montana.
<i>A 2Z Ranch</i>	<i>Camp Sawtooth</i>
Cody, Wyoming.	Red Lodge, Montana.
<i>Bar B C</i>	<i>Camp Tuffit</i>
Gardiner, Montana.	Polson, Montana.
<i>Bar Lazy D A Ranch</i>	<i>Campfire Inn</i>
Livingston, Montana.	Norris, Montana.
<i>Bar M C Ranch</i>	<i>Captain Laird's Recreation Lodge</i>
Ranchester, Wyoming.	Missoula, Montana.
<i>Bar P Quarter Circle Ranch</i>	<i>Chico Hot Springs</i>
Greybull, Wyoming.	Emigrant, Montana.
<i>Beartooth Ranch</i>	<i>Circle H</i>
Columbus, Montana.	Cody, Wyoming.
<i>Binko Ranch</i>	<i>Circle 8 Ranch</i>
Missoula, Montana.	Helena, Montana.
<i>Blackwater Lodge</i>	<i>Circle W</i>
Cody, Wyoming.	Missoula, Montana.
<i>Boulder Hot Springs</i>	<i>Clydehurst-on-the-Boulder</i>
Helena, Montana.	Big Timber, Montana.
<i>Bones Brothers Ranch</i>	<i>Crescent Lazy H Ranch</i>
Forsyth, Montana.	Gardiner, Montana.
<i>Bower's Ranch</i>	<i>Covington Lodge</i>
Norris, Montana.	Polson, Montana.
<i>Brannin Ranch</i>	
Big Timber, Montana..	

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

<i>Cross Quarter Circle</i>	<i>Forsythe Range</i>
W. Yellowstone, Montana.	Bozeman, Montana.
<i>Deep Canyon Ranch</i>	<i>Four Bear Ranch</i>
Helena, Montana.	Cody, Wyoming.
<i>Dewey Riddle Ranch</i>	<i>Four K Ranch</i>
Cody, Wyoming.	Columbus, Montana.
<i>Diamond G Ranch</i>	<i>Gallatin Way Ranch</i>
Bonneville, Wyoming.	Bozeman, Montana.
<i>Diamond J Ranch</i>	<i>Gordon Ranch</i>
Bozeman, Montana.	Missoula, Montana.
<i>Diamond Tail Ranch</i>	<i>Grayling Inn</i>
Greybull, Wyoming.	Bozeman, Montana.
<i>Donald Cattle Ranch</i>	<i>Gros Ventre Ranch</i>
Big Timber, Montana.	Gardiner, Montana.
<i>Dot S Dot Ranch</i>	<i>H. F. Bar Ranch</i>
Big Timber, Montana.	Clearmont, Wyoming.
<i>Double Arrow Ranch</i>	<i>H Bar 9 Ranch</i>
Missoula, Montana.	W. Yellowstone, Montana
<i>Double Dee Ranch</i>	<i>Harris Inn</i>
Cody, Wyoming.	Norris, Montana.
<i>Double Diamond Ranch</i>	<i>Hiawatha Lodge</i>
Gardiner, Montana.	Polson, Montana.
<i>E Bar L Ranch</i>	<i>Hilman Ranch</i>
Missoula, Montana.	Sheridan, Wyoming.
<i>Eatons' Ranch</i>	<i>Holland Lake Lodge</i>
Sheridan, Wyoming.	Missoula, Montana.
<i>Elephant Head Lodge</i>	<i>Hot Foot Ranch</i>
Cody, Wyoming.	Cody, Wyoming.
<i>Elkhorn Ranch</i>	<i>Holm Lodge</i>
Bozeman, Montana.	Cody, Wyoming.
<i>Elkhorn Hot Springs Hotel</i>	<i>Hot Springs</i>
Dillon, Montana.	Plains, Montana.
<i>Forest Meadow Camp</i>	<i>Hunters' Peak Ranch</i>
Plains, Montana	Cody, Wyoming.
<i>Flathead Recreation Lodge</i>	<i>Hutchins' Ranch</i>
Polson, Montana.	Norris, Montana.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

<i>I X L Ranch</i>	<i>Mission Range Ranch</i>
Sheridan, Wyoming.	Ravalli, Montana.
<i>Jackson Lake Lodge</i>	<i>Morris Ranch</i>
Gardiner, Montana.	Cody, Wyoming.
<i>Karst's Dude Ranch</i>	<i>Haggin Ranch</i>
Bozeman, Montana.	Butte, Montana.
<i>Keewaydin Rocky Mountain Camps</i>	<i>Nordquist's L Bar T Ranch</i>
Missoula and Drummond, Montana.	Gardiner, Montana.
<i>Klondike Ranch</i>	<i>Old Kaintuck Camp</i>
Buffalo, Wyoming.	Big Timber, Montana.
<i>Kratz Ranch</i>	<i>O T O Ranch</i>
Columbus, Montana.	Corwin Springs, Montana.
<i>Lazy Bar F Ranch</i>	<i>Ox Yoke Ranch</i>
Cody, Wyoming.	Livingston, Montana.
<i>Larson's Lodge</i>	<i>Pahaska Tepee</i>
Polson, Montana.	Cody, Wyoming.
<i>Lazy Bar H Ranch</i>	<i>Paradise Ranch</i>
Cody, Wyoming.	Buffalo, Wyoming.
<i>Lazy K Bar Ranch</i>	<i>Pass Creek Ranch</i>
Big Timber, Montana.	Sheridan, Wyoming.
<i>Lone Wolf Ranch</i>	<i>Piney Inn and Ranch</i>
Billings, Montana.	Sheridan, Wyoming.
<i>Lolo Hot Springs</i>	<i>Pitchfork Ranch</i>
Missoula, Montana.	Cody, Wyoming.
<i>Majo Ranch</i>	<i>Quarter Circle U Ranch</i>
Cody, Wyoming.	Forsyth, Montana.
<i>Matterhorn Camp</i>	<i>Rainbow Ranch</i>
Polson, Montana.	Bozeman, Montana.
<i>McLeod Hot Springs</i>	<i>Red River Hot Springs</i>
Big Timber, Montana.	Grangeville, Idaho.
<i>Medicine Wheel Ranch</i>	<i>Richard Ranch</i>
Sheridan, Wyoming.	Cody, Wyoming.
<i>Mill Creek Ranch</i>	<i>Richel Lodge</i>
Livingston, Montana.	Red Lodge, Montana.
	<i>Rimrocks Ranch</i>
	Sheridan, Wyoming.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

<i>Rising Sun Ranches</i>	<i>T Cross Ranch</i>
Bozeman, Montana.	Bonneville, Wyoming.
<i>Rim Rock Ranch</i>	<i>Tepee Lodge</i>
Cody, Wyoming.	Sheridan, Wyoming.
<i>Rocking Arrow Ranch</i>	<i>Tamaracks</i>
Bozeman, Montana.	Missoula, Montana.
<i>Seven Up Ranch</i>	<i>Two N Ranch</i>
Helena, Montana	Bonneville, Wyoming.
<i>Seventy Acres</i>	<i>Tepee Lodge</i>
Big Timber, Montana.	Sheridan, Wyoming.
<i>Shaw's Camps</i>	<i>Two X Ranch</i>
Gardiner, Montana.	Sheridan, Wyoming.
<i>Seven Bar 9</i>	<i>Triangle Seven Ranch</i>
Helena, Montana.	Livingston, Montana.
<i>Sharp's Ranch</i>	<i>Triangle X Ranch</i>
Missoula, Montana.	Cody, Wyoming.
<i>Sixty Three Ranch</i>	<i>T O Bar Ranch</i>
Livingston, Montana.	Red Lodge, Montana.
<i>Shaw's Camps</i>	<i>Wigwam</i>
Gardiner, Montana.	Worland, Wyoming.
<i>Snowy Range Ranch</i>	<i>White Grass Ranch</i>
Livingston, Montana.	Gardiner, Montana.
<i>Sleeping Child Springs</i>	<i>Valley Ranch</i>
Hamilton, Montana.	Cody, Wyoming
<i>Spear-O-Wigwam</i>	<i>U X U</i>
Sheridan, Wyoming.	Cody, Wyoming.
<i>Sprague Ranch</i>	<i>White's Dude Ranch</i>
Norris, Montana.	Ravallia, Montana.
<i>Staples Resort</i>	<i>Wightman-Lawton Ranch</i>
Sheridan, Wyoming.	Bozeman, Montana.
<i>Sunlight Ranch</i>	<i>X Bar A</i>
Cody, Wyoming.	Big Timber, Montana
<i>Swinging H Ranch</i>	<i>Z Cross</i>
Columbus, Montana.	Cody, Wyoming.

* R. R. Station, Sheridan, Wyoming.

*RANCHES REACHED BY
THE CHICAGO, BURLINGTON & QUINCY
RAILROAD*

*The Buffalo Bill Country
Wyoming.*

Holm Lodge¹

Cody, Wyoming.

Morris Ranch¹

Cody, Wyoming.

Blackwater Lodge¹

Cody, Wyoming.

Pahaska Tepee¹

W. F. Wilkinson,

Stewartville, Missouri, or

Cody, Wyoming.

LV Bar Ranch¹

Wapiti, Wyoming.

Four Bear Ranch¹

Cody, Wyoming.

Rim Rock Ranch¹

Cody, Wyoming.

Elephant Head Lodge¹

Cody, Wyoming.

Lazy Bar H Ranch¹

Cody, Wyoming.

The Circle H Ranch¹

Wapiti, Wyoming.

Aldrich Lodge²

Cody, Wyoming.

Valley Ranch³

Valley, Wyoming.

The A z Z Ranch²

Valley, Wyoming.

Majo Ranch²

Valley, Wyoming.

Bobcat Ranch²

Ishawooa, Wyoming.

The Double Doc Ranch³

Pitchfork, Wyoming.

Sunlight Ranch³

Painter, Wyoming.

L-T Ranch³

Crandell, Wyoming.

Log Cabin Ranch³

Painter, Wyoming.

Camp Senia³

Red Lodge, Montana.

Richel Lodge³

Red Lodge, Montana.

Camp Sawtooth³

Red Lodge, Montana.

T Cross Ranch³

Dubois, Wyoming.

Richard Ranch³

Cody, Wyoming.

¹ Ranches located on or near the North Fork of the Shoshone River.

² The Shoshone South Fork.

³ Other ranches.

*RANCHES REACHED BY
THE CHICAGO, BURLINGTON & QUINCY
RAILROAD*

*The Big Horn Country
Wyoming.*

<i>Eatons Ranch</i>	<i>Klondike Ranch</i>
<i>Wolf, Wyoming.</i>	<i>Buffalo, Wyoming.</i>
<i>H. F. Bar Ranch</i>	<i>Camp Big Horn (for boys)</i>
<i>Buffalo, Wyoming.</i>	<i>Big Horn, Wyoming.</i>
<i>Paradise Ranch</i>	<i>Hilman Ranch</i>
<i>Buffalo, Wyoming.</i>	<i>Big Horn, Wyoming.</i>
<i>Bones Bros. Ranch</i>	<i>Piney Inn and Ranch</i>
<i>Birney, Montana.</i>	<i>Story, Wyoming.</i>
<i>Rosebud X4 Ranch</i>	<i>"Quarter Circle U" Ranch</i>
<i>Kirby, Montana.</i>	<i>Birney, Montana.</i>
<i>Triangle A Ranch</i>	<i>Spear Mountain Camp</i>
<i>Sheridan, Wyoming.</i>	<i>Sheridan, Wyoming.</i>
<i>IXL Ranch</i>	<i>Red Cliff Ranch</i>
<i>Dayton, Wyoming.</i>	<i>Buffalo, Wyoming.</i>
<i>Spear X Ranch</i>	<i>Red Rim Ranch</i>
<i>Arvada, Wyoming.</i>	<i>Wyola, Montana.</i>
<i>Tepee Lodge</i>	<i>Staples Ranch</i>
<i>Canon Trail Ranch</i>	<i>Story, Wyoming.</i>
<i>Wyola, Montana.</i>	<i>Brookside</i>
<i>Medicine Wheel Ranch</i>	<i>Dayton, Wyoming.</i>
<i>Sheridan, Wyoming.</i>	<i>(Klondike Ranch),</i>
<i>R Bar Ranch</i>	<i>Buffalo, Wyoming.</i>
<i>Birney, Wyoming.</i>	<i>Big Horn Lodge</i>
<i>Bar M C Ranch</i>	<i>Ten Sleep, Wyoming.</i>
<i>Dayton, Wyoming.</i>	<i>The Pines</i>
<i>Mountain Home Ranch</i>	<i>Buffalo, Wyoming.</i>
<i>Parkman, Wyoming.</i>	<i>The Wigwam</i>
<i>Crescent H Bar Camp (for girls)</i>	<i>Worland, Wyoming.</i>
<i>Buffalo, Wyoming.</i>	<i>Camp Wyman</i>
	<i>Shell, Wyoming.</i>

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

Van's Lodge
Worland, Wyoming.

Meadow Lark
Ten Sleep, Wyoming

**RANCHES REACHED BY
THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD**

The Rocky Mountain West

<i>Bar BC Ranch</i>	<i>Teton Lodge</i>
Jackson Hole, Wyoming. (Moose P. O.)	Moran, Wyoming. <i>Touzalin Ranch</i>
<i>Bar BC J-O</i> (Juniors outfit)	Colorado Springs, Colorado.
Jackson Hole, Wyoming. (Moose P. O.)	<i>Triangle X Ranch</i>
<i>C M Ranch</i>	Jackson Hole, Wyoming. (Grovont P. O.)
Dubois, Wyoming.	<i>Two N Ranch</i>
<i>Crescent Lazy H</i>	Dubois, Wyoming.
Wilson, Wyoming.	<i>T Cross Ranch</i>
<i>D C Bar Ranch</i>	Dubois, Wyoming.
Kendall, Wyoming.	<i>White Grass Ranch</i>
<i>Double Diamond Ranch</i>	Jackson Hole, Wyoming. (Moose P. O.)
Moose P. O., Wyoming.	<i>The A Bar A Ranch</i>
<i>Flying A Ranch</i>	Encampment, Wyoming.
Daniel, Wyoming.	<i>Boyer YL Ranch</i>
<i>Flying V Ranch</i>	Savery, Wyoming.
Moose, Wyoming.	<i>L U Bar Ranch</i>
<i>CP Bar Ranch</i>	Dwyer, Wyoming.
Cora, Wyoming.	<i>One-Bar-Eleven Ranch</i>
<i>Gros Ventre Ranch</i>	Encampment, Wyoming.
Kelly, Wyoming.	<i>Sky Meadows</i>
<i>H F Bar and Paradise Ranches</i>	Encampment, Wyoming.
Buffalo, Wyoming.	<i>Y-Cross Ranch</i>
<i>Jackson Lake Lodge</i>	Horse Creek, Wyoming.
Moran P. O., Wyoming.	<i>LX Bar Ranches</i>
<i>Hacienda del Monte Ranch</i>	Hayden, Colorado.
Redwing, Colorado.	<i>Phantom Valley Ranch</i>
<i>Stead Guest Ranch</i>	Grand Lake, Colorado.
Estes Park, Colorado.	<i>Ralston Creek Ranch</i> (for boys)
<i>STS Ranch</i>	Golden, Colorado.
Jackson Hole, Wyoming. (Moose P. O.)	

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

<i>Rugh Ranch</i>	<i>Diamond-and-A-Half Ranch</i>
Greeley, Colorado.	Hereford, Oregon.
<i>Saddle Pocket Ranch</i>	<i>M J G Ranch</i>
Battle Creek P. O., Colorado.	Joseph, Oregon.
<i>SLW Home Ranch</i>	<i>Glenn Ranch</i>
Greeley, Colorado.	Glen Ranch, California.
<i>Smillie's F Slash Ranch</i>	<i>North Verde Ranch</i>
Granby, Colorado.	Victorville, California.
<i>S Bar L. Ranch</i>	<i>Valley View Ranch</i>
Ward, Colorado.	Westcliffe, Colorado.
<i>Alturas Lake Resort</i>	<i>Trails End Ranch</i>
Hailey, Idaho.	Ft. Collins, Colorado.
<i>Big Springs Inn</i>	<i>Holm Lodge</i>
Guild P. O., Idaho.	Holm Lodge, Wyoming.
<i>Boyle's Ranch</i>	<i>The Valley Ranch</i>
Loon Creek, Idaho. (Stanley P. O.)	Valley, Wyoming.
<i>Bower's Ranch</i>	<i>Sunlight Ranch</i>
Lake P. O., Idaho.	Cody, Wyoming.
<i>Four S Hereford Ranch</i>	<i>Cross Quarter Circle Ranch</i>
Soda Springs, Idaho.	West Yellowstone, Montana.
<i>Gameland Sporting Ranches</i>	<i>Double Arrow Ranch</i>
Yellow Pine, Idaho.	Greenough, Montana.
<i>Idaho Rocky Mountain Club</i>	<i>E Bar L Ranch</i>
Stanley, Idaho.	Greenough, Montana.
<i>Mack's Inn and Tourist Cabins</i>	<i>Forsythe Range, Inc.</i>
Mack's Inn P. O., Idaho.	Bozeman, Montana.
<i>Robinson Bar Ranch</i>	<i>Laird's Recreation Lodge</i>
Mackay, Idaho.	Seeley Lake P. O., Montana.
<i>Rocking NF Ranch</i>	<i>OX Yoke Ranch</i>
Ketchum, Idaho.	Emigrant, Montana.
<i>Elkhorn Ranch</i>	<i>Seven UP Ranch</i>
Bozeman, Montana.	Lincoln, Montana.
<i>H Bar 9 Ranch</i>	<i>Pierson Dude Ranch</i>
West Yellowstone, Montana.	Del Piedra, California.
<i>Haggin Dude Ranch</i>	<i>Aspen Ridge Ranch</i>
Anaconda, Montana.	Kelly P. O., Wyoming.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

<i>Castle Rock Ranch</i>	<i>Cheley Camps</i>
Jackson, Wyoming.	(boys and girls)
<i>Diamond Double L Outfit</i>	Estes Park, Colorado.
Moose P. O., Wyoming.	<i>Double M. Ranch</i>
<i>Leek's Camps</i>	Boulder, Colorado.
Jackson, Wyoming.	<i>Hudler Riding Camp</i>
<i>Moose Head Ranch</i>	(for girls)
Jackson Hole, Wyoming.	(Near Granby, Colorado.)
<i>Triangle F Lodge</i>	Address Miss Edna Hudler,
Triangle F Ranch P. O., Wyo.	203 Carleton Bld.,
<i>V Bar V Ranch</i>	St. Louis, Missouri.
Victor, Idaho.	<i>The KA Rose Resort</i>
<i>Booklyn Lodge</i>	Granby, Colorado.
Centennial, Wyoming.	<i>Stony Point Lodge</i> (for boys)
<i>Libby Lodge</i>	Boulder, Colorado.
Centennial, Wyoming.	<i>Tom Tucker Ranch</i>
<i>Medicine Bow Lodge</i>	Nederland, Colorado.
Saratoga, Wyoming.	<i>Wind River Ranch</i>
<i>Bar I L Ranch</i> (boys and girls)	Estes Park, Colorado.
Tabernash, Colorado.	<i>Ketchums Camp and Hotel</i>
<i>Camp Chief Ouray</i> (boys) Denver, Colorado.	Ketchum, Idaho.
	<i>The Horse Ranch</i>
	Union, Oregon.

**RANCHES REACHED BY
THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILROAD**

Montana and the North West

<i>Alhambra Hot Springs</i>	<i>Hard Trigger Ranch</i>
Alhambra, Montana.	Glacier Park, Montana.
<i>Allan Ranch</i>	<i>Happy's Inn</i>
Augusta, Montana.	Libby, Montana.
<i>Arps Ranch</i>	<i>Hiawatha Lodge</i>
Augusta, Montana.	Dayton, Montana.
<i>Baker Guest Ranch</i>	<i>Jennings Ranch</i>
Choteau, Montana.	Glacier Park, Montana.
<i>Bar M Z Ranch</i>	<i>Kintla Guest Ranch</i>
Libby, Montana.	Trail Creek, Montana.
<i>Bosworth Cabins</i>	<i>Larson Lodge</i>
Swan Lake, Montana.	Big Fork, Montana.
<i>Broken Arrow Ranch</i>	<i>M Lazy V Ranch</i>
Glacier Park, Montana.	Marion, Montana.
<i>Camp Tuffit</i>	<i>Meadow Mountain Ranch</i>
Proctor, Montana.	Marion, Montana.
<i>Circle Eight Ranch</i>	<i>Retiro Cabins</i>
Choteau, Montana.	Belton, Montana.
<i>Covington Lodge</i>	<i>Rocky Bar O Ranch</i>
Swan Lake, Montana.	Big Fork, Montana.
<i>Curley Dunlap Dude Ranch</i>	<i>Scenic Rest Camp</i>
Lewistown, Montana.	Big Arm, Montana.
<i>Fender's Ranch</i>	<i>Seven Up Ranch</i>
Augusta, Montana.	Lincoln, Montana.
<i>Fish Lake Resort</i>	<i>Shining Mountain Camp</i>
Stryker, Montana.	Soners, Montana.
<i>Flathead Ranch</i>	<i>Spotted Bear Camp</i>
Big Fork, Montana.	Big Fork, Montana.
<i>Glacier Bay Lake Resort</i>	<i>Stecker Ranch</i>
Somers, Montana.	Augusta, Montana.
<i>Gleason Ranch</i>	<i>Sunrise Ranch</i>
Choteau, Montana.	Kalispell, Montana.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

Swift Creek Ranch
R-I Whitefish, Montana.

Two Medicine Ranch
Glacier Park, Montana.

*DUDE RANCHES REACHED BY
THE SANTA FE RAILROAD*
(May 1, 1935)

NEW MEXICO

<i>Bishop's Lodge</i>	<i>Jay-C-Bar Ranch</i>
Santa Fé, New Mexico.	Rociada, New Mexico.
<i>Bonnell Ranch</i>	<i>Lobo Ranch</i>
Glencoe, New Mexico.	Cuba, New Mexico.
<i>Brush Ranch</i> (formerly Irvins-on-Pecos)	<i>Lone Pine Ranch</i>
Tererro, New Mexico.	Glencoe, New Mexico.
<i>Cimarroncita Ranch Camp</i> (for girls)	<i>Los Pinos</i>
Ute Park, New Mexico.	Cowles, New Mexico.
<i>Double-S-Ranch</i>	<i>Mountain View Ranch</i>
Cliff, New Mexico.	Tererro, New Mexico.
<i>El Porvenir</i>	<i>Piñon Lodge</i>
El Porvenir, New Mexico.	Crystal, New Mexico.
<i>Forked Lightning Ranch</i>	<i>Rancho de Dias Alegres</i>
Rowe, New Mexico.	Las Vegas, New Mexico.
<i>Frijoles Canyon Ranch</i>	<i>Rancho de Tres Ritos</i>
Box 1321, Santa Fé, New Mexico.	Taos, New Mexico. (via Vadito.)
<i>Hacienda de Los Cerros</i>	<i>Rancho Del Monte</i>
Santa Fé, New Mexico.	Santa Fé, New Mexico.
<i>Kickapoo Kamp</i> (for girls)	<i>Tent Rock Ranch, Inc.</i>
Gascon, New Mexico.	Pena Blanca, New Mexico.
<i>Kit Carson Camp</i> (for boys)	<i>V. R. Ranch</i>
El Rancho Del Vallecito,	Cuba, New Mexico.
Tres Piedras, New Mexico.	<i>The Valley Ranch</i>
	Valley Ranch, New Mexico
	<i>X-T Ranch</i>
	Carlsbad, New Mexico.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

ARIZONA

Arrowhead Ranch
Skull Valley, Arizona.
Bar 37 Ranch
Camp Wood Route,
Prescott, Arizona.
Bar F X Guest Ranch
Box 938,
Wickenburg, Arizona.
Beaver Creek Ranch
Rimrock, Arizona.
C 4 Ranch
Box 8,
Wickenburg, Arizona.
Champie Ranch
Hot Springs, Arizona.
Cross Triangle Ranch
Prescott, Arizona.
El Rancho Grande
Box 397,
Mesa, Arizona.
Foxboro Ranches
Flagstaff, Arizona.
H W Ranch
Chino Valley, Arizona.
Jokake Inn
Phoenix, Arizona.
Kay-el-Bar
Wickenburg, Arizona.
Lazy R C Ranch
Wickenburg, Arizona.
Los Arroyos Inn
Scottsdale, Arizona.
M-Bar-V Ranch
Flagstaff, Arizona.

Monte Vista Ranch
Wickenburg, Arizona.
Natural Bridge Ranch
Payson, Arizona.
Oak Creek Lodge
Flagstaff, Arizona.
Paradise Canyon Ranch
Marble Canyon, Arizona.
Paradise Valley Ranch
Box 1224,
Prescott, Arizona.
Phantom Ranch
Grand Canyon, Arizona.
Pima Estate Guest Ranch
Route 1,
Laveen, Arizona.
Quarter Circle V-Bar Ranch
Mayer, Arizona.
Remuda Ranch
Wickenburg, Arizona.
Rimrock Ranch
Rimrock, Arizona.
Sabuaro Lake Ranch
Box 278,
Mesa, Arizona.
Soda Springs Ranch
Rimrock, Arizona.
T. P. Ranch
Hot Springs, Arizona.
Thunder Bird Ranch
Chin Lee, Arizona.
Timberline Ranch (for girls)
Vernon, Arizona.
(via Holbrook, Arizona.)

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

Triangle H. C. Ranch
Camp Wood, Arizona.

The Wigwam
(Guest inn and bungalows.)
Litchfield Park, Arizona.

COLORADO

Hu Ranch
Bayfield, Colorado.
Teelawuket Ranch

Bayfield, Colorado.
Valley View Dude Ranch
Westcliffe, Colorado.

CALIFORNIA

Deep Well Guest Ranch
Palm Springs, California.
Pierson Dude Ranch

Del Piedra, California.
Smoke Tree Ranch
Palm Springs, California.

Note: Addresses given herein are location and mail address.

**GUEST RANCHES REACHED BY
THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD**

<i>Gallagher Ranch</i>	<i>Flying V. Ranch</i>
San Antonio, Texas.	Tucson, Arizona.
<i>Haley Ranch</i>	<i>Fresnal Ranch School</i>
Alpine, Texas.	Tucson, Arizona.
<i>Mitre Peak Ranch</i>	<i>Garden of Allah Guest Ranch</i>
Mitre Peak Park, Texas.	Wickenburg, Arizona.
<i>Double S. Ranch</i>	<i>Hacienda de La Osa</i>
Cliff, New Mexico.	Tucson, Arizona.
<i>Ladder Ranch</i>	<i>Hacienda los Encinos</i>
Hillsboro, New Mexico.	Sonoita, Arizona.
<i>Lone Pine Ranch</i>	<i>Hayden Guest Ranch</i>
Glenco, New Mexico.	Tempe, Arizona.
<i>Bonnell Ranch</i>	<i>H. W. Ranch</i>
Glenco, New Mexico.	Chino Valley, Arizona.
<i>C. X. Ranch</i>	<i>Jokake Inn</i>
Elk, New Mexico.	Scottsdale, Arizona.
<i>T. V. Bar Ranch</i>	<i>Kay-El-Bar Ranch</i>
Gila, New Mexico.	Wickenburg, Arizona
<i>Bar F. X. Ranch</i>	<i>Monte Vista Ranch</i>
Wickenburg, Arizona.	Wickenburg, Arizona.
<i>Bar O Ranch</i>	<i>Old Homestead Ranch</i>
Tombstone, Arizona.	Phoenix, Arizona.
<i>Bar Thirty-Seven Ranch</i>	<i>Paradise Valley Ranch</i>
Prescott, Arizona.	Prescott, Arizona.
<i>Circle "Z" Ranch</i>	<i>Pima Estate Ranch</i>
Patagonia, Arizona.	Laveen, Arizona.
<i>C-4 Guest Ranch</i>	<i>Pyramid Lake Ranch</i>
Wickenburg, Arizona.	Sutcliff, Nevada.
<i>Champie Ranch</i>	<i>Quarter Circle V Bar Ranch</i>
Hot Springs, Arizona.	Mayer, Arizona.
<i>Cross Triangle Ranch</i>	<i>Rancho Linda Vista</i>
Prescott, Arizona.	Oracle, Arizona.
<i>Faraway Ranch</i>	<i>Remuda Guest Ranch</i>
Dos Cabezas, Arizona.	Wickenburg, Arizona.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

<i>Sahuar Lake Ranch</i>	<i>Vah-Ki Inn</i>
Mesa, Arizona.	Coolidge, Arizona.
<i>Seventy Six Ranch</i>	<i>Deep Well Guest Ranch</i>
Bonita, Arizona.	Palm Springs, California.
<i>Sierra Linda Ranch</i>	<i>Pierson Dude Ranch</i>
Portal, Arizona.	Delpiedra, California.
<i>Spur Cross Ranch</i>	<i>San Clemente Ranch</i>
Cave Creek, Arizona.	Monterey, California.
<i>Tanque Verde Ranch</i>	<i>Smoke Tree Ranch</i>
Tucson, Arizona.	Palm Springs, California.
<i>The Wigwam</i>	<i>T H Ranch</i>
Litchfield Park, Arizona.	Sutcliff, Nevada.
<i>Triangle H. C. Ranch</i>	<i>Lone Star Guest Ranch House</i>
Camp Wood, Arizona.	Reno, Nevada.
<i>Triangle T Ranch</i>	<i>Monte Cristo Ranch</i>
Dragoon, Arizona.	Reno, Nevada.
<i>Y— Lightning Ranch</i>	
Hereford, Arizona.	

GUEST RANCHES REACHED BY THE ROCK ISLAND RAILROAD

<i>Adobe House</i>	<i>Hatchet Ranch</i>
Scottsdale, Arizona.	Mesa, Arizona.
<i>Apache Guest Ranch</i>	<i>Hayden Guest Ranch</i>
Dragoon, Arizona.	Tempe, Arizona.
<i>Aztec Lodge—Ranch</i>	<i>Kay-El-Bar Ranch</i>
via Globe, Arizona.	Wickenburg, Arizona.
<i>Bar F X Ranch</i>	<i>Las Moras Ranch</i>
Wickenburg, Arizona.	Tucson, Arizona.
<i>Bar O Ranch</i>	<i>Monte Vista Ranch</i>
Tombstone, Arizona.	Wickenburg, Arizona.
<i>Catalina Vista Ranch</i>	<i>Old Homestead Ranch</i>
Tucson, Arizona.	Phoenix, Arizona.
<i>C Bar Ranch</i>	<i>Outlook Ranch</i>
Dragoon, Arizona.	Elgin, Arizona.
<i>C-4 Ranch</i>	<i>Pima Estate Ranch</i>
Wickenburg, Arizona.	Laveen, Arizona.
<i>Champie Ranch</i>	<i>Rancho del Vaquero</i>
Ilot Springs, Arizona.	Mesa, Arizona.
<i>Circle Z Ranch</i>	<i>Rancho Linda Vista</i>
Patagonia, Arizona.	Oracle, Arizona.
<i>Diamond C Ranch</i>	<i>Rancho Santa Cruz</i>
Elgin, Arizona.	Tubac, Arizona.
<i>Faraway Ranch</i>	<i>Remuda Ranch</i>
Dos Cabezos, Arizona.	Wickenburg, Arizona.
<i>Flying V Ranch</i>	<i>Saluaro Lake Ranch</i>
Tucson, Arizona.	Mesa, Arizona.
<i>Garden of Allah Ranch</i>	<i>Seventy Six Ranch</i>
Wickenburg, Arizona.	Bonita, Arizona.
<i>Glover Ranch</i>	<i>Sierra Linda Ranch</i>
Tucson, Arizona.	Portal, Arizona.
<i>Hacienda de La Osa Ranch</i>	<i>Silver Bell Ranch</i>
Tucson, Arizona.	Tucson, Arizona.
<i>Harding Guest Ranch</i>	<i>Tanque Verde Ranch</i>
Tucson, Arizona.	Tucson, Arizona.

DUDE RANCHES AND PONIES

<i>Triangle T Ranch</i>	<i>Ladder Ranch</i>
Dragoon, Arizona.	Hillsboro, New Mexico.
<i>Wanada Lodge</i>	<i>T V Bar Ranch</i>
Phoenix, Arizona.	Gila, New Mexico.
<i>Y-Lightning Ranch</i>	<i>Deep Well Ranch</i>
Hereford, Arizona.	Palm Springs, California.
<i>C X Ranch</i>	<i>Smoke Tree Ranch</i>
Elk, New Mexico.	Palm Springs, California.
<i>Double S Ranch</i>	<i>Bonnell Ranch</i>
Cliff, New Mexico.	Glencoe, New Mexico.

